ROBIN HOOD pss 17-26

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Anecdotes

OF

ARCHERY;

FROM THE

Earliest Ages to the Year 1791.

Including an ACCOUNT of

THE MOST FAMOUS ARCHERS

OF ANCIENT AND MODERN TIMES;

With some curious Particulars in the LIFE of

ROBERT FITZ-OOTH EARL OF HUNTINGTON,

Vulgarly called

ROBIN HOOD.

THE PRESENT STATE OF ARCHERY,

WITH

THE DIFFERENT SOCIETIES IN GREAT BRITAIN,

Particularly those of

Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Durham.

BY E. HARGROVE.

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M,DCC,XCII.

GV
1189
H22a

TO

GEORGE ALLAN, Esq. F. A. S.

IN GRATITUDE

FOR MANY FAVOURS RECEIVED,

THESE

ANECDOTES OF ARCHERY

ARE MOST HUMBLY

INSCRIBED

BY THE

AUTHOR.

ANECDOTES OF ARCHERY.

THE Bow is the moſt ancient, and hath been the moſt univerſal, of all weapons; and probably was uſed againſt the beaſts of the foreſts, long before men made war upon each other:—We find it uſed by the moſt powerful and civilized, as well as the moſt barbarous and uncultivated, nations. In Holy Writ* we are told ISAAC called his ſon ESAU, and ſaid, "Now therefore take, I "pray thee, thy weapons, thy quiver and thy bow, "and go out to the field, and take me ſome ve- "niſon; and make me ſavory meat, ſuch as I "love, and bring it to me, that I may eat, that "my ſoul may bleſs thee before I die."

JONATHAN, the ſon of SAUL, was a ſkilful Archer; but it ſeems this weapon had been neglected amongſt the armies of Iſrael, for in the fatal battle near mount Gilboa, betwixt SAUL and the Philiſtines, we are told †, "The battle "went ſore againſt Saul; and the Archers hit him; "and he was ſore wounded of the Archers."

* Gen. xxvii. 3. † 1 Samuel, xxxi. 3.

In the next chapter we are told, that DAVID gave orders for the children of Judah, to be taught the uſe of the bow.

In the Iliad, we find the bow ſometimes mentioned, though it does not ſeem to have been of general uſe in either army during that memorable war. The poet ſpeaking of PARIS, and deſcribing the dreſs and arms of that delicate warrior*, ſays——

. . . . . The panther's ſpeckled hide
Flow'd o'er his armour with an eaſy pride;
His bended bow acroſs his ſhoulders flung,
His ſword beſide him negligently hung;
Two pointed ſpears he ſhook, with gallant grace,
And dar'd the braveſt of the Grecian race†.

PANDARUS aiming an arrow at MENELAUS, the action is thus deſcribed‡:

Now with full force the yielding horn he bends,
Drawn to an arch, and joins the doubling ends;
Cloſe to the breaſt he ſtrains the nerve below,
Till the barb'd point approach the circling bow:
Th' impatient weapon whizzes on the wing,
Sounds the tough horn, and twangs the quiv'ring ſtring.

* And yet this was the man who afterwards inſidiouſly ſlew the great Achilles, by wounding him in the heel with an arrow, when he was going to marry Polyxena, in the temple of Apollo.

† Iliad, Book III. line 27.

‡ Iliad, Book IV. line 152.

THE LOCRIANS were a body of troops in the Grecian army, who occaſionally uſed both the bow and the ſling *.

The LOCRIAN ſquadrons nor the jav'lin wield,
Nor bear the helm, nor lift the moony ſhield;
But ſkill'd from far the flying ſhaft to wing,
Or whirl the ſounding pebble from the ſling.
Dextrous with theſe they aim a certain wound,
Or fell the diſtant warrior to the ground.
Thus in the van, the Telamonian train
Throng'd in bright arms, a preſſing fight maintain:
For in the rear the LOCRIAN Archers lie,
Whoſe ſtones and arrows intercept the ſky;
The mingled tempeſt on the foes they pour;
TROY's ſcatt'ring orders open to the ſhow'r.

THE ſuitors of PENELOPE, having in vain attempted to bend the bow of ULYSSES, (that hero being preſent, diſguiſed like a beggar) he with much difficulty obtains leave to try his ſkill †.

. . . . . One hand aloft diſplay'd
The bending horns, and one the ſtring eſſay'd.
From his eſſaying hand the ſtring let fly,
Twang'd ſhort and ſharp, like the ſhrill ſwallow's cry.
A general horror ran thro' all the race,
Sunk was each heart, and pale was every face:
Then fierce the hero o'er the threſhold ſtrode;
Stript of his rags, he blaz'd out like a god.

* Iliad, Book XIII. line 891.
† Odyſſey, Book XXI. line 446.

Full in their face the lifted bow he bore,
And quiver'd deaths, a formidable ſtore;
Before his feet the rattling ſhow'r he threw,
And thus terrific to the ſuitor crew:
" One vent'rous game this hand has won to-day,
Another, princes! yet remains to play;
Another mark our arrow muſt attain,
PHŒBUS! aſſiſt;—nor be the labour vain."
Swift as the word the parting arrow ſings,
And bears thy fate, ANTINOUS, on its wings:
Wretch that he was, of unprophetic ſoul!
High in his hands he rear'd the golden bowl!
Even then to drain it, lengthen'd out his breath,
Chang'd to the deep, the bitter draught of death:
For fate, who fear'd, amidſt a feaſtful band?
And fate to numbers, by a ſingle hand?
Full thro' his throat ULYSSES' weapon paſt,
And pierc'd the neck: He falls and breaths his laſt.

ENEAS in celebrating the anniverſary of his father's funeral, amongſt other ſports and exerciſes, introduces Archery.

Forthwith ENEAS to the ſports invites
All who with feather'd ſhafts wou'd try their ſkill,
And names the prizes. With his ample hand
He from SERESTUS' ſhip a maſt erects;
And on it by a rope ſuſpended ties
A ſwift-wing'd dove, at which they all ſhould aim
Their arrows: They aſſemble; and the lots
Shuffled into a brazen caſque are thrown.
With fav'ring ſhouts HIPPOCOON firſt appears,
Offspring of HYRTACUS: Then MNESTHEUS next,
So lately victor in the naval ſtrife,
And crown'd with olive-greens: EURYTION third,

Brother to thee, O PANDARUS! renown'd,
Who once, commanded to diſſolve the league,
Didſt firſt among the Grecians hurl a dart:
ACESTES to the helmet's bottom ſinks,
The laſt; himſelf preſuming to attempt
The ſports of youth. Then all with manly ſtrength
Bend their tough yeugh; each with his utmoſt force
All from their quivers draw their ſhafts: and firſt
Shot from the twanging nerve HIPPOCOON's flies
Along the ſky, beats the thin liquid air,
And on the body of the maſt adverſe
Stands fix'd: The maſt and frighted bird at once
Tremble, and all the cirque with ſhouts reſounds.
Next eager MNESTHEUS with his bended bow
Stands ready, and his eyes and arrow aim'd
Directs to heav'n; yet could not reach the dove
Herſelf unfortunate, but cut the knots
And hempen ligaments in which ſhe hung
Ty'd by the feet upon the lofty maſt;
She flies into the winds and duſky clouds.
EURYTION then impatient, and long ſince
Holding his ready bow and fitted ſhaft,
Invokes his brother; and, in open air,
Seeing the dove now ſhake her ſounding wings,
Transfixes her amidſt the clouds: The bird
Falls dead, and leaves her life among the ſtars.

CYAXARES, king of the Medes, and great grandfather to CYRUS, engaged ſome Scythian Archers to teach his ſon the uſe of the bow. This nation had a law, that their children ſhould learn three things particularly, from the age of five to that of twenty, viz. To ride a horſe well,

to ſhoot well, and never to tell a lie. ZENOPHON obſerves, that CYRUS was from a child brought up to Archery.

HERODOTUS informs us, that when CAMBYSES had conquered EGYPT, and had thoughts of invading ÆTHIOPIA, he ſent ſome ſpies before him; who, under pretence of carrying preſents to the king, might privately inquire into the ſtrength and condition of the kingdom. When they were arrived at court, and had made their preſents, the king of ÆTHIOPIA ſaid to them, "It was not from any conſideration of my friendſhip, that the king of PERSIA ſent you to me "with theſe preſents; neither have you ſpoken "the truth, but are come into my kingdom as "ſpies. If CAMBYSES was an honeſt man he "would deſire no more than his own; and not "endeavour to reduce a people under ſervitude, "who have never done him any injury. However, give him this bow from me, and let him "know, that the king of ÆTHIOPIA adviſes "the king of PERSIA, to make war againſt the "ÆTHIOPIANS, when the PERSIANS ſhall be "able thus eaſily to draw ſo ſtrong a bow; and "in the meanwhile to thank the gods, that they "never inſpired the ÆTHIOPIANS with a deſire "of extending their dominions beyond their own "country." Saying this, he unbent the bow, and delivered it to the ambaſſadors.

The prophets ISAIAH and JEREMIAH, both ſpeak of this nation, as being famous for bending and handling the bow *.

The beſt part of the armies of ALEXANDER the GREAT were Archers.

THE bowmen of Athens performed wonders in many battles; but particularly under DEMOSTHENES, their renowned general, when they defeated the Lacedemonians near the city of Pylos. PLATO mentions, that one thouſand Archers were appointed for the ſtanding guard of the city of Athens. This celebrated philoſopher was an advocate for Archery, and recommended to the Athenians that proper maſters might be employed by the ſtate, to teach their youth the uſe of the bow; and that a large field ſhould be ſet apart, near every town and city, for that purpoſe.

THE Cretans began to teach their youth the uſe of the bow at ſeven years of age; and ſo expert were this people in the uſe of the weapon, that all the neighbouring monarchs were deſirous of having a band of Cretan Archers in their armies. "The arrows of Gortynia," ſays

* Iſaiah lxvi. 19.—Jeremiah xlvi. 9.

CLAUDIAN, "aimed from a truſty bow, are "ſure to wound, nor ever miſs the deſtined "mark."

THE victories obtained by the Parthians, over the Romans, was chiefly aſcribed to their ſuperiority in the uſe of their bows. With theſe they purſued MARCUS ANTONINUS over the hills of Media and Armenia,—conquered the noble Valerian,—and ſlew the Apoſtate Julian.

Though we find very little mention of the bow in the Roman armies, yet they often employed auxiliary Archers in their wars. DOMITIAN, COMMODUS, and THEODOSIUS were accounted excellent ſhooters. It is evident alſo they had maſters at Rome to teach the art, among whom was T FLAVIUS EXPEDITUS; whoſe image SPON has given from a ſepulchral baſs relief, where he is called DOCTOR SAGITTARUM.

LEO ordained that all the youth of Rome ſhould be compelled to uſe ſhooting, more or leſs; and always bear their bow and quiver about with them, till they were eleven years old. He alſo adds, "We ſtrictly command you to make pro-"clamation to all men under our dominion, which "be either in war or peace; to all cities and "towns; and, finally, to all manner of men,—"that every free man have bow and arrows of

" his own, and every houſe have a bow and forty " arrows for every occaſion; and that they exer- " ciſe themſelves in holts, hills, dales, woods, " and plains, to inure them to all the chances of " war."

THE Artillery Company of London *, tho' they have long diſuſed the weapon, are the remains of the Ancient Fraternity of Bowmen, or Archers. Artillery (*artillerie*) is a French term, ſignifying Archery: As the *King's Bowyer* is, in that language, ſtyled *Artillier du Roy*.

William the Conqueror had a conſiderable number of bowmen in his army at the battle of Haſtings: The names of the officers of this part of his army is contained in the roll of Battle-Abbey †; they are in number ſeventy-three, and came from the Vale of Rueil Bretviel, and many other places. Amongſt theſe we find the names of DUGLOSSE, MOWBRAY, MORTIMER, HARECOURT, DEVREUX, ALLAN COUNT DE BRITAIGNE, &c.

As this victory was certainly obtained by the help of the long-bow and broad-arrow ‡; ſo it was by the ſame weapons that the Engliſh afterwards conquered France.

* Archæologiæ, vol. vii.

† Fuller's Church Hiſtory.

‡ Harold himſelf was ſlain by an arrow.

It may not be improper to insert in this place an excellent and curious comparison between this weapon and our fire arms, mentioned in the life of WILLIAM the NORMAN by JOHN HAYWARD.

" One circumstance more I hold fit to be ob-
" served, that this victory was gotten only by
" means of the arrow; the use whereof was
" brought into this land afterwards. The English
" being trained to the fight, did thereby chiefly
" maintain themselves with honourable advantage
" against all nations with whom they did contend
" in arms, being generally reputed the best shot in
" the world. But of late years it hath been alto-
" gether laid aside; and instead thereof, the
" harquebuss and calliver are brought into use, yet
" not without contradiction of many expert men
" of arms; who, albeit they do not reject the use
" of the small pieces, yet do they prefer the bow
" before them: First, for that, in a reasonable
" distance, it is of greater certainty and force:
" Secondly, for that it discharges faster: Thirdly,
" for that more men may discharge therewith at
" once; for only the first rank dischargeth the
" piece, neither hurt they any but those that are
" in front; but with the bow ten or twelve ranks
" may discharge together, and will annoy so many
" ranks of the enemy: Lastly, for that the arrow
" doth strike more parts of the body; for in that it
" turneth by descent, and not only point-blank,
" like the bullet, there is no part of the body but

" it may ſtrike, from the crown of the head, to " the nailing of the foot to the ground. Here- " upon it followeth, that the arrows falling ſo " thick as hail upon the bodies of men, as leſs " fearful of their fleſh, ſo much ſlenderly armed " than in former times, muſt neceſſarily work " more dangerous effects. Beſides theſe general " reſpects, in many particular ſervices and times " the uſe of the bow is of great advantage; if " ſome defence lie before the enemy, the arrow " may ſtrike where the bullet cannot; foul wea- " ther may much hinder the diſcharge of the " piece, but is of no great impediment to the diſ- " charge of the bow: A horſe ſtruck with a bul- " let, if the wound be not mortal, may perform " good ſervice; but if an arrow be faſtened in " his fleſh, the continual ſtirring thereof, occa- " ſioned by the motion of himſelf, will force him " to caſt of all command, and either beat down, " or diſorder thoſe that are near. But the crack " of the piece, ſome men ſay, doth ſtrike a terror " in the enemy: True, if they be ſuch as never " heard the like noiſe before; but a little uſe will " extinguiſh theſe terrors. To men, yea to " beaſts, acquainted with theſe cracks, they work " a weak impreſſion of fear: And if it be true, " which all men of action do hold, that the eye in " all battles is firſt overcome, then againſt men " equally accuſtomed to both, the ſight of the ar- " row is more available to victory than the crack of " the piece. Aſſuredly the duke, before the bat-

" tle, encouraged his men, for that they ſhould " deal with enemies who had no ſhot. But I will " leave this point to be determined by more diſ- " cerning judgment *."

WILLIAM himſelf was an admirable Archer, and was ſo ſtrong, that few but himſelf could bend the bow he uſed.

WILLIAM II. being hunting in the New-Foreſt, in company with Sir WALTER TYRRELL, and others; this knight unfortunately let fly an arrow at a ſtag, which glancing againſt a tree, took a different direction, and pierced the king's breaſt, who immediately expired. To perpetuate the memory of ſo remarkable an event, JOHN LORD DELWAR, who had ſeen the tree growing, erected a pillar in the very place where it ſtood, with the following inſcription:

" HERE STOOD THE OAK TREE ON WHICH " AN ARROW, SHOT BY SIR WALTER TYR- " RELL AT A STAG, GLANCED, AND STRUCK " KING WILLIAM THE SECOND, SURNAMED " RUFUS, IN THE BREAST, OF WHICH HE IN- " STANTLY DIED, ON THE SECOND DAY OF " AUGUST, A. D. 1100."

" KING WILLIAM THE SECOND, SURNA- " MED RUFUS, BEING SLAIN AS BEFORE RE-

* See Harl. Miſcell. vol. ii.

"LATED, WAS LAID IN A CART BELONG-
"ING TO ONE PURKESS, AND DRAWN FROM
"THENCE TO WINCHESTER, AND BURIED
"IN THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THAT
"CITY."

RICHARD STRONGBOW, Earl of Clare, Pembroke, and Buckingham, was famous for his ſtrength and ſkill in Archery; after reducing Ireland for king Henry II. he died 1177.

RICHARD I. King of England, when beſieging the caſtle of Chaluze, approached too near the walls, and was killed by an arrow from a croſsbow, on the 8th of March 1199.

During the reign of this monarch we firſt find mention made of ROBIN HOOD *, who hath been ſo long celebrated as the chief of Engliſh Archers.

The inteſtine troubles of England were very great at that time, and the country every where infeſted with outlaws and banditti; amongſt whom none were ſo famous as this Sylvan hero and his followers, whom STOW, in his Annals, ſtyles RENOWNED THIEVES. The perſonal courage of this celebrated outlaw, his ſkill in Archery, his humanity, and eſpecially his levelling principle, of

* Vide Rapin.

taking from the rich and giving to the poor, have ever ſince rendered him the favourite of the common people.

Sir Edward Coke, in his Third Inſtitute, page 197, ſpeaks of Robin Hood, and ſays, that men of his lawleſs profeſſion were from him called *Roberdſmen:* He ſays, that this notable thief gave not only a name to theſe kind of men, but mentions a Bay on the Yorkſhire coaſt, called *Robin Hood's Bay*. He farther adds, that the Statute of Wincheſter, 13th of Edward I. and another Statute of the 5th of Edward III. were made for the puniſhment of Roberdſmen, and other felons.

Who was the author of the collection, called *Robin Hood's Garland*, no one has yet pretended to gueſs. As ſome of the ſongs have more of the ſpirit of poetry than others, it is probably the work of various hands: That it has from time to time been varied and adapted to the phraſe of the times is certain.

In the viſion of Pierce Plowman, written by Robert Longland, a ſecular Prieſt, and Fellow of Oriel College, and who flouriſhed in the reign of Edward III. is this paſſage:

I cannot perfitly my Pater Noſter as the priſt it ſingeth;
I can rimes of Robinhod and Randal of Cheſter.

DRAYTON in his Poly-Olbion, Song xxvi. thus characteriſes him :

From wealthy abbots' cheſts, and churches' abundant ſtore,
What often times he took he ſhared amongſt the poor:
No Lordly biſhop came in luſty Robin's way,
To him before he went but for his paſs muſt pay;
The widow in diſtreſs he graciouſly relieved,
And remedied the wrongs of many a virgin grieved.

HEARNE, in his Gloſſary, inſerts a manuſcript note out of WOOD, containing a paſſage cited from JOHN MAJOR, the Scottiſh Hiſtorian, to this purpoſe; that Robin Hood was indeed an arch-robber, but the gentleſt thief that ever was: And ſays he might have added, from the Harlein MSS. of JOHN FORDUN's Scottiſh Chronicle, that he was, though a notorious robber, a man of great charity.

The true name of ROBIN HOOD, was ROBERT FITZ-OOTH, the addition of FITZ, common to many Norman names, was afterwards often omitted or dropped: The two laſt letters TH being turned into D, he was called by the common people OOD or HOOD. It is evident he was a man of quality, as by the annexed Pedigree, copied from Dr. STUKELEY's Palæographia Britanniæ: JOHN SCOT, 10th Earl of Huntington, dying *anno* 1237, without iſſue R. FITZ-OOTH, was by the female line next heir to that title, as deſcended from GILBERT DE GAUNT Earl of Kyme and

Lindſey. The title lying dormant * during the laſt ten years of his life, there could be nothing unreaſonable or extraordinary in his pretenſions to that honour. The arms of ROBIN HOOD were *gules*, two *bends engrailed or*. In the old garland he is ſaid to have been born at Loxley in Staffordſhire; and in a ſhooting match †, made by the KING and QUEEN, being choſe by the latter for her archer, ſhe calls him LOXLEY: a cuſtom very common in thoſe days to call perſons of eminence by the name of the town where they were born.

It does not appear that our hero poſſeſſed an eſtate; perhaps he or his father might be deprived of that on ſome political account; attainders and confiſcations being very frequent in thoſe days of Norman tyranny and feudal oppreſſion. In the 19th of HENRY II when the ſon of that king rebelled againſt his father, ROBERT DE FERRERS manned his caſtles of Tutbury and Duffield in behalf of the PRINCE. WILLIAM FITZ-OOTH, father of our hero, (ſuppoſe him connected with the FERRERS, to which his dwelling

* The title lay dormant 90 years after ROBERT's death; namely, till the year 1337, when WILLIAM LORD CLINTON was created Earl of Huntington.

† On this occaſion we are told, that ROBIN HOOD was dreſt in ſcarlet, and his men in green; and that they all wore black hats and white feathers.

at Loxley * seems to point) might suffer with them in the consequences of that rebellion, which would not only deprive the family of their estates, but also of their claim to the Earldom of Huntington. From some such cause our hero might be induced to take refuge in those woods and forests, where the bold adventurer,—whether flying from the demands of his injured country, or to avoid the ruthless hand of tyrannic power,—had often found a safe and secure retreat.

Tutbury, and other places in the vicinity of his native town, seems to have been the scene of his juvenile frolics. We afterwards find him at the head of two hundred strong resolute men, and expert archers, ranging the woods and forests of Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, and other parts of the north of England †.

Charton, in his history of Whitby Abbey, page 146, recites, "That in the days of Abbot "Richard this freebooter, when closely pursued "by the civil or military power, found it neces- "sary to leave his usual haunts, and retreating "cross the moors that surrounded Whitby, "came to the sea coast, where he always had in "readiness some small fishing vessels; and in

* The Ferrers were Lords of Loxley.

† Besides many other places, the following are particularly mentioned, viz. Barnsdale, Wakefield, Plompton Park, and Fountains-Abbey.

" theſe putting off to ſea, he looked upon him-
" ſelf as quite ſecure, and held the whole power
" of the Engliſh nation at defiance. The chief
" place of his reſort at theſe times, and where his
" boats were generally laid up, was about ſix miles
" from Whitby, and is ſtill called Robin Hood's
" Bay." Tradition further informs us, that in one of theſe peregrinations he, attended by his Lieutenant, JOHN LITTLE, went to dine * with ABBOT RICHARD, who having heard them often famed for their great dexterity in ſhooting with the long-bow, begged them after dinner to ſhew him a ſpecimen thereof; when to oblige the Abbot, they went up to the top of the Abbey, whence each of them ſhot an arrow, which fell not far from Whitby Laths, but on the contrary ſide of the lane. In memory of this tranſaction, a pillar was ſet up by the Abbot in the place where each of the arrows fell, which were ſtanding in 1779; each pillar ſtill retaining the name of the owner of each arrow. Their diſtance from Whitby Abbey is more than a meaſured mile, which ſeems very far for the flight of an arrow; but when we conſider the advantage a ſhooter muſt have from an elevation, ſo great as the top of the abbey, ſituated on a high cliff, the fact will not appear ſo very extraordinary. Theſe very pillars are mentioned, and the fields called by the aforeſaid names in the

* Poſſibly without invitation.

old deeds for that ground*, now in the poſſeſſion of Mr. THOMAS WATSON. It appears by his Epitaph, that ROBERT FITZ-OOTH lived 59 years after this time (1188); a very long period for a life abounding with ſo many dangerous enterprizes, and rendered obnoxious both to church and ſtate. Perhaps no part of Engliſh hiſtory afforded ſo fair an opportunity for ſuch practices, as the turbulent reigns of RICHARD I. KING JOHN, and HENRY III.

HUBERT, Archbiſhop of Canterbury and chief Juſticiary of England, we are told, iſſued ſeveral proclamations for the ſuppreſſing of outlaws; and even ſet a price on the head of this hero. Several ſtratagems were uſed to apprehend him, but in vain. Force he repelled by force; nor was he leſs artful than his enemies. At length being cloſely purſued, many of his followers ſlain, and the reſt diſperſed, he took refuge in the Priory of Kirklees, about twelve miles from Leeds, in Yorkſhire, the Prioreſs at that time being his near relation. Old age, diſappointment, and fatigue, brought on diſeaſe; a monk was called in to open a vein, who, either through ignorance or deſign, performed his part ſo ill, that the bleeding could not be ſtopped.

* That each of the arrows of theſe renowned ſhooters fell, as above deſcribed, is probable; but that they were ſhot from ſome other place than the top of the Abbey is equally probable.

Believing he ſhould not recover, and wiſhing to point out the place where his remains might be depoſited, he called for his bow and diſcharging two arrows, the firſt fell in the river Calder, the ſecond falling in the park, marked the place of his future ſepulture. He died on the 24th of December, in the year 1247 *, as appears by the following epitaph, which was once legible on his tomb, in Kirklees park; where, though the tomb remains, yet the inſcription hath been long obliterated. It was, however, preſerved by Dr. GALE, Dean of York, and inſerted from his papers by Mr. THORESBY, in his Ducat. Leod. and is as follows:

HEAR, UNDERNEAD DIS LATIL STEAN,
LAIZ ROBERT EARL of HUNTINGTON;
NEA ARCIR VER AZ HIE SA GEUD,
AN PIPL KAULD IM ROBIN HEUD:
SICK UTLAWZ AZ HI AN IZ MEN,
VIL ENGLAND NIVR SI AGEN.
Obit 24 Kal. Dekembris, 1247.

In a ſmall grove part of the cemetery formerly belonging to this Priory, is a large flat graveſtone, on which is carved the figure of a Croſs de Calvary, extending the whole length of

* Suppoſing him twenty-one years of age, when on his viſit to ABBOT RICHARD at Whitby, he muſt at this time have been at leaſt in his eightieth year.

ſtone, and round the margin is inſcribed in Monaſtic characters:

+ Dovce : Ihu : de : Nazareh : Donne : Mercy : Elizabeh : de . Stanton : Priores : de : Cette Maison *.

The lady whoſe memory is here recorded, is ſaid to have been related to Robin Hood, and under whoſe protection he took refuge ſometime before his death. Theſe being the only monuments, remaining at the place make it probable, at leaſt, that they have been preſerved on account of the ſuppoſed affinity of the perſons over whoſe remains they were erected.

R. Hood's mother had two ſiſters †, each older than herſelf. The firſt married Roger Lord Mowbray; the other married into the family of Wake. As neither of theſe could be prioreſs of Kirklees, Elizabeth Stanton might be one of their deſcendants.

In the churchyard of Hatherſage, a village in Derbyſhire, were depoſited, as tradition informs

* This Norman inſcription ſhews its antiquity.—— Robin Hood's anceſtors were Normans, and poſſeſſed the Lordſhip of Kyme, in Lincolnſhire. There is a market-town in that county called Stanton.

† Dr. Stukeley.

us, the remains of JOHN LITTLE, the ſervant and companion of ROBIN HOOD. The grave is diſtinguiſhed by a large ſtone, placed at the head, and another at the feet; on each of which are yet ſome remains of the letters I. L.

THE revolution which delivered the Swiſs Cantons from the Germanic yoke, happened about the year 1307. In which WILLIAM TELL, a renowned Archer and inhabitant of Underwald, was the principal inſtrument.

GRISLER, the Governor under ALBERT, the Emperor, exerciſed the moſt glaring acts of tyranny and oppreſſion. Amongſt the reſt of his experiments to try the patience of the people, it is ſaid that he placed his hat on the top of a pole, and commanded every one to pay the ſame reſpect to this inſignia in his abſence, they did to his perſon when preſent, on pain of ſuch puniſhment as he ſhould think proper to inflict.

WILLIAM TELL refuſing this baſe ſubmiſſion, was brought before GRISLER, who knowing him to be a good marſkman, wantonly ordered him to ſhoot an arrow at an apple placed on the head of his own ſon; at the ſame time informing him, that if he miſſed the mark, he ſhould be hanged on the ſpot. His ſon, then but a child, was placed at

the diſtance of one hundred and twenty paces from his father; who drawing the bow, with a trembling hand let fly the arrow, which carried away the apple without touching the boy, amidſt the ſhouts and acclamations of many thouſands of ſpectators. The tyrant perceiving he had another arrow concealed under his cloak, aſked him,—For what purpoſe? as he was only to have one ſhot? To which, he boldly replied, "To "have ſhot thee to the heart if I had had the "misfortune to kill my ſon."

GRISLER, who had promiſed to give him his life on his confeſſing the truth, now ordered him to be bound and carried priſoner to a place on the lake of Lucern; but TELL happily eſcaping out of the boat, in croſſing the lake, retired to the mountains. His fellow-citizens, animated by his fortitude and patriotiſm, flew to arms, attacked and vanquiſhed GRISLER, who fell by an arrow from the hand of TELL. The conſequence was that the aſſociation for independency took place on the inſtant*.

AMONGST the numerous levies made by EDWARD II. for the purpoſe of invading Scotland, in the year 1314, we find particular mention made of the Northumbrian Archers in HARVEY's life of King ROBERT BRUCE, an Heroic Poem, printed in the year 1768.

* See Stumpff & Sceiweizer Chronica, fol. 1548.

From Humber's ſtreams, whoſe tumbling waves reſound,
And deafen all the adjoining coaſts around,
To where the Tweed in ſofter windings flows,
Full fifty thouſand quiver'd warriors roſe * :——
A hardy race, who well experienced, knew
To fit the ſhaft, and twang the bended yew;
Bred up to danger, and inured to dare
In diſtant fight, and aim the feather'd war;
Theſe bands their country's higheſt triumphs boaſt;
And GLOCESTER and HERTFORD led the hoſt.

The country from the Humber to the Tweed, formerly the ancient Deira, was ſtill covered with woods and foreſts, abounding with vaſt quantities of game; a circumſtance which would certainly encourage the uſe of the bow.

In the year 1341, the 15th of EDWARD III. SIR JOHN ELLAND of Elland, being High Sheriff of the county of York; and the king then engaged in foreign wars: Three gentlemen who lived in the neighbourhood of Elland, namely, SIR ROBERT BEAUMONT QUARMBY of Quarmby, and LOCKWOOD of Lockwood, having by ſome means diſpleaſed the High Sheriff, he reſolved on their utter deſtruction. Arming his tenants, he repaired by night to each of their houſes, and cruelly murdered them all.

* Theſe troops with many others, ſuffered a total defeat at Bannockburn, in conſequence of a diſpute amongſt the officers before the battle began.

LADY BEAUMONT, with her two ſons, fled for protection to Brearton-Hall in Lancaſhire, the ſeat of SIR THOMAS BREARTON, her near relation. She was preſently followed by the two ſons of LOCKWOOD and QUARMBY, accompanied by their relation young LACY of Crumble-bottom. Theſe youths were entertained alternately, at the hoſpitable manſions of Townley and Brearton-Hall; where, beſides the ordinary education, they were inſtructed in all the manly exerciſes of the times,—riding, fencing, and particularly ſhooting in the long bow. Here they continued till the youngeſt of the party had attained to his fifteenth year; when it was unanimouſly agreed, they ſhould with a few truſty aſſociates return into Yorkſhire, and retaliate on the Houſe of Elland, the cruel treatment their families had experienced.

Having prepared every thing for their departure, they ſet out and travelled through unfrequented paths till they came to Crumble-bottom wood; it being pre-concerted to lay in ambuſh there, and ſurpriſe SIR JOHN ELLAND, coming from the Sheriffturn at Brigg-houſe. This plan was carried into execution, by openly charging him with his former crimes, and attacking him, ſurrounded by his ſervants and retainers. A ſharp conflict enſued, in which SIR JOHN being ſeperated from his friends, was ſurrounded and ſlain.

From hence theſe daring adventurers fled to the wilderneſs of Fourneſs-Fells in Lancaſhire; in this place ſo remote from ſociety and deſtitute of every accomodation they ſpent the winter, planning ſchemes for their future attempts on the remains of a family, they wiſhed to extirpate from the face of the earth.

The males of which, now only conſiſted of a ſon and grandſon of the deceaſed knight. On the eve of Palm-Sunday, they arrived near the place, took poſſeſſion of Elland mill, under cover of the night. Here they meant to wait the coming of Sir John Elland, his ſon, and family, and attack them as they paſſed over the ſtepping ſtones of the river in their way to the church. Sir John having the day before heard, that a band of armed ſtrangers had been ſeen in the neighbourhood; was ſo much alarmed, that when entreated by his Lady to attend her to church, he concealed his ſuſpicions, by putting on armour under his cloaths. The conſpirators had a full view of the family as they deſcended the hill from the houſe to the river. Already had the Knight begun to croſs the water, when the door of the mill opened, and Beaumont holding his bow came forward, and with a determined and reſolute air drew the arrow to the head, which flying ſtruck the Knight on the breaſt, and glanced to a diſtance. Lockwood at that inſtant ſtepped

forth and crying out "Couſin, you ſhoot wide," diſcharged his arrow, which meeting with the ſame reſiſtance was equally ineffectual; here it is ſaid, the Knight was ſeen to ſmile juſt before a ſecond arrow from the bow of LOCKWOOD, entering his head laid him dead on the ſpot; at the ſame time an arrow from ſome other of the party mortally wounded his only ſon, who expired ſoon after; and with him the male-line of ELLAND of Elland*.

Having thus accompliſhed their moſt ſanguine intentions, the troop began their retreat with all poſſible expedition, meanwhile the inhabitants of Elland hearing of the death of their Lord, haſtily collected ſuch arms as they could, and came up with the fugitives in Aneley wood. The loud ſhouts of the people gave notice of their approach; BEAUMONT, LOCKWOOD, and QUARMBY, had juſt time to face about and form their little corps, when the enemy appeared in ſight. So long as any arrows remained amongſt them this reſolute band did great execution, and ſlew many of the Ellanders; but thoſe being expended they were ſoon overpowered by numbers, and totally defeated. QUARMBY, left wounded in the wood,

* SIR JOHN ELLAND left one only ſiſter, who carried the eſtate of Elland Hall and the Manor of Elland into the noble family of SAVILE, by marrying an anceſtor of the late Lord Marquis of Halifax.

was killed by the purſuers. BEAUMONT eſcaped to the Continent, ſerved under the knights of ST. JOHN in Hungary, and afterwards in the Iſland of Rhodes, with great reputation*. LOCKWOOD after eſcaping from his purſuers, arrived at Camel-Hall nigh Cawthorn in the county of York. This houſe was then the property of BOSWELL, the under-ſheriff, and tenanted by a perſon of the name of LACY.

LOCKWOOD's ſtay here ſeems to have been prolonged by an affair of gallantry, which took place betwixt him and the daughter of his hoſt. BOSWELL hearing of this prevailed with LACY to deliver the unſuſpecting LOCKWOOD into his hands; for this purpoſe he beſet the houſe, and called aloud to the youth to ſurrender himſelf—who, far from ſubmitting, appeared with his bow in his hand, with which he defended himſelf ſo well that the ſheriff would probably have drawn off his men, had it not been for the perfidy of the daughter of LACY, who ruſhing ſuddenly upon him cut his bow-ſtring aſunder, and fled in an inſtant. Diſappointed but not conquered, this intrepid youth ſtill refuſed to ſurrender; BOSWELL had then re-

* This gentleman wrote ſome years after to one of his friends in Yorkſhire, giving an account of his proceedings abroad. The letter was directed "To JENKIN DIXON, "dwelling at Hole-Houſe, within the pariſh Aldmonbury "in the county of York."

courſe to feigned ſpeeches, and hypocritical promiſes, which ſucceeded to his wiſh, and the brave and gallant Lockwood, ſurrendered himſelf into the hands of villains, who firſt bound him, and then put him to death. Such were the conſequences of this fatal quarrel, which exhibits a mournful picture of the ferocious manners of the times *.

Edward III. in the 15th year of his reign iſſued an order to the ſheriffs of moſt of the Engliſh counties; for providing five hundred white bows and five hundred bundles of arrows for the then intended war againſt France in 1341.

Similar orders were repeated in the following years; with this difference only, that the ſheriff of Glouceſterſhire is directed to furniſh five hundred painted bows, as well as the ſame number of white. The famous battle of Creſſey was fought four years afterwards, in which the Engliſh are ſaid to have had four thouſand Archers, who were oppoſed to 15000 Genoeſe croſs-bow men. Theſe having their bow ſtrings moiſtened with rain, their arrows fell ſhort for want of the uſual elaſticity; the Engliſh having guarded againſt this inconvenience, gained a complete victory in 1346.

* Vide Hiſt. of Halifax.

The battle of Poictiers was fought ten years after, (A. D. 1356) and gained by the ſuperiority of the Engliſh Archers.

A. D. 1392, an act paſſed to oblige ſervants to ſhoot with bows and arrows on Holydays and Sundays.

Sometimes the archers gained great victories without the leaſt aſſiſtance from the men at arms; particularly the deciſive victory over the Scots at Hamildon in 1402. In that bloody battle the men at arms did not ſtrike a ſtroke; but were mere ſpectators of the valour and victory of the Archers. The EARL of DOUGLAS who commanded the Scots army in that action, enraged to ſee his men falling thick around him by ſhowers of arrows, and truſting to the goodneſs of his armour (which had been three years in making;) accompanied by about eighty lords, knights, and gentlemen in complete armour, ruſhed forward and attacked the Engliſh Archers ſword in hand. But he ſoon had reaſon to repent his raſhneſs. The Engliſh arrows were ſo ſharp and ſtrong, and diſcharged with ſo much force, that no armour could repel them. EARL DOUGLAS, after having received five wounds was made priſoner; and all his brave companions were either killed or taken *.

* HENRY's Hiſt. vol. v. page 463.

PHILIP DE COMINES acknowledges what our own writers aſſert, that the Engliſh Archers excelled thoſe of every other nation:

And SIR JOHN FORTESCUE ſays again and again, "that the might of the realme of Eng-"land ſtandyth upon Archers."

IN 1403 was the battle of Shrewſbury, the beſt fought, and the moſt deſperate that England had ever ſeen: The Archers on both ſides did terrible execution. And here the PRINCE OF WALES, afterwards HENRY V. was wounded in the face by an arrow.

The French depended chiefly on their men at arms, and the Scots on their pikemen; but the ranks of both were often thinned and thrown into diſorder, by flights of arrows, before they could reach their enemies. Of this there are numberleſs inſtances, and none where it is more evident than in the battle of Agincourt: Some of the particulars of which, though well known, may not be unacceptable to ſome of our readers.

On the morning of Friday, the memorable 25th of October, A. D. 1415, the Engliſh and French armies were ranged in order of battle, each in three lines, with bodies of cavalry on each wing.

The CONSTABLE D'ALBERT, who commanded the French army, fell into the ſnare that was laid for him, by drawing up his army in the plain between two woods. This deprived him in a great meaſure of the advantage he ſhould have derived from the prodigious ſuperiority of his numbers *; obliged him to make his lines unneceſſarily deep, about thirty men in file; to crowd his troops, particularly his cavalry, ſo cloſe together, that they could hardly move or uſe their arms; and, in a word, was the chief cauſe of all the diſaſters that followed.

The firſt line of the French army, which conſiſted of eighty thouſand men-at-arms on foot, mixed with four thouſand Archers, and five hundred men at-arms, mounted on each wing, was commanded by the CONSTABLE D'ALBERT, the DUKES of ORLEANS and BOURBON, and many other nobles; the DUKES of ALENÇON, BRABANT, BAR, &c. conducted the ſecond line; and the EARLS of MARLE, DAMARTINE, FAUCONBERG, &c. were at the head of the third line. The King of England employed various arts to ſupply his defect of numbers. He placed two hundred of his beſt Archers in am-

* The Engliſh army conſiſted of about ten thouſand, of whom not a few were ſick. That of the French amounted to one hundred thouſand; ſome contemporary writers ſay one hundred and forty thouſand.

buſh, in a low meadow, on the flank of the firſt line of the French. His own firſt line conſiſted wholly of Archers, four in file; each of whom, beſides his bow and arrows, had a battle-ax, a ſword, and a ſtake pointed with iron at both ends, which he fixed before him in the ground, the point inclining outwards, to protect him from cavalry; which was a new invention, and had a happy effect.

That he might not be encumbered, he diſmiſſed all his priſoners on their word of honour to ſurrender themſelves at Calais, if he obtained the victory,—and lodged all his baggage in the village of Agincourt, in his rear, under a ſlender guard. The command of the firſt line was, at his earneſt requeſt, committed to EDWARD Duke of York, aſſiſted by the LORDS BEAUMONT, WILLOUGHBY, and FANHOPE; the ſecond was conducted by the KING, with his youngeſt brother HUMPHRY DUKE of GLOUCESTER, the EARLS of OXFORD, MARSHAL, and SUFFOLK; and the third was led by the DUKE of EXETER, the King's uncle.

The lines being formed, the king, in ſhining armour, with a crown of gold, adorned with precious ſtones, on his helmet, mounted on a fine white horſe, rode along them, and addreſſed each corps with a cheerful countenance and ani-

mating ſpeeches. To inflame their reſentment againſt their enemies, he told them, that the French had determined to cut off three fingers of the right-hand of every priſoner; and, to rouſe their love of honour, he declared, that every ſoldier in that army who behaved well, ſhould from thenceforth be deemed a gentleman, and entitled to bear coat-armour.

When the two armies were drawn up in this manner, they ſtood a conſiderable time gazing at one another in ſolemn ſilence. But the King dreading that the French would diſcover the danger of their ſituation and decline a battle, commanded the charge to be ſounded about ten o'clock in the forenoon. At that inſtant the firſt line of the Engliſh kneeled down and kiſſed the ground; and then ſtarting up, diſcharged a flight of arrows, which did great execution among the crowded ranks of the French. Immediately after, upon a ſignal being given, the Archers in ambuſh aroſe, and diſcharged their arrows on the flank of the French line, and threw it into ſome diſorder. The battle now became general, and raged with uncommon fury. The Engliſh Archers having expended all their arrows, threw away their bows, and ruſhing forward, made dreadful havoc with their ſwords and battle-axes. The firſt line of the enemy was, by theſe means, defeated; its leaders being either killed or taken priſoners.

The second line commanded by the DUKE D'ALENÇON, (who had made a vow to kill or take the King of England, or to perish in the attempt) now advanced to the charge, and was encountered by the second line of the English, conducted by the KING. This conflict was more close and furious than the former—The DUKE of GLOUCESTER, wounded and unhorsed, was protected by his royal brother till he was carried off the field—The DUKE D'ALENÇON forced his way to the KING, and assaulted him with great fury; but that prince brought him to the ground, where he was instantly despatched. Discourged by this disaster, the second line made no more resistance, and the third fled without striking a blow; yielding a complete and glorious victory to the English, after a violent struggle of three hours duration.

The King, after returning to England, sensible of the very great use and importance of his Archers, directs the sheriffs of counties to collect six wing-feathers from every goose, for the purpose of improving arrows; which were to be paid for by the King. It appears that these six feathers should consist of the second, third, and fourth of each wing.

James I. of Scotland, who had ſeen and admired the dexterity of the Engliſh Archers, and who was himſelf an excellent Archer, endeavoured to revive the exerciſe of Archery amongſt his own ſubjects, by whom it had been too much neglected. With this view he ridiculed their aukward manner of handling their bows, in his humourous Poem of *Chriſtis Kirk of the Grene* *, and procured the following law to be made in his firſt parliament. (A. D. 1424.)

" That all men might buſk them to be " Archares fra tha be 12 yeres of age, and that " at ilk tenne punds worth of land there be made " bow markes, and ſpeciallie near paroche kirks, " quhair upon halie dayis men may cum and at " the leiſt ſchute thryſe about, and have uſage " of Archarie; and whaſa uſis not Archarie, " the Laird of the land ſall rais of him a wed- " der; and giff the Laird raiſis not the ſaid " pane, the King's Shiref or his Miniſters ſhall " rais it to the King."

* With that a freynd of his cry'd,—" Fy!"
And up an arrow drew;
He forgit it ſae furiouſly
The bow in ſtenderis flew:
" It was as weel, for if, trow I,"
For had the tre been trew,
Men ſaid, that kend his Archery,
That he had ſlain enow.

But the untimely death of that excellent Prince, which happened in the year 1437, prevented the execution of this law.

THE arrow ſeems to have been the deciſive weapon at the great battle of Towton, between the Yorkiſts and Lancaſtrians, where thirty ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty-ſix Engliſhmen fell a ſacrifice to the ambition of contending Princes.

The battle begun about nine o'clock in the morning of the 29th of March 1461, at which time a thick ſnow falling was driven by a briſk wind full in the faces of the Lancaſtrians, who were thereby prevented from obſerving the exact diſtance of the enemy.

The LORD FAUCONBERG, an old and experienced officer, made an admirable uſe of this accident; for he ordered his men to advance as near as they conveniently could, and to diſcharge a flight of arrows, and then retire with all ſpeed out of the reach of thoſe of the enemy.

This ſtratagem had a wonderful effect: The Lancaſtrians feeling the arrows, and thinking their enemies were not many yards diſtant, emptied their quivers by repeated diſcharges, ED-

WARD's men all the while keeping theirs in reſerve. The LORD FAUCONBERG perceiving the Lancaſtrians' ſhot was near ſpent, and that they were advancing, as was cuſtomary, ſword in hand, to begin a cloſe fight, plied them with another furious diſcharge, which obliged them to fall back on the main body. Moſt authors agree, that this conduct of FAUCONBERG's was a great help to the victory *.

STOW obſerves that the ſlain were buried in five great pits in the field by North-Saxton church; and adds, that a Mr. HUNGATE cauſed them to be removed from thence, and buried in the churchyard of Saxton; but they were certainly buried in many parts of the field, as their remains are often diſcovered there by the ploughſhare.

Mr. DRAKE informs us, that in the year 1734, himſelf and two other gentlemen were preſent at this place, to ſee one of theſe graves opened in the field; where, amongſt vaſt quantities of bones, they found ſome arrow piles, pieces of broken ſwords, and five very freſh groat-pieces of HENRY IV. V. and VI's. coin. Theſe laying,

* THOMAS LORD CLIFFORD, noted for his cruelty at the battle of Wakefield, was, three months after, killed at this battle, by a headleſs arrow, which piercing his throat, he died immediately, aged 26.

nearly altogether, close to a thigh bone, made it probable that they had not had time to strip the dead before their interment.

In the 5th year of EDWARD IV. an act passed, that every Englishman, and Irishman dwelling with Englishmen, should have an English bow of his own height; which is directed to be made of yew, wych, hazel, ash, or awborne, or any other reasonable tree, according to their power. This act also directs, that butts shall be made in every township, which the inhabitants are obliged to shoot up and down every feast day, under the penalty of a halfpenny, when they shall omit this exercise.

In the 14th year of the same King it appears, by RYMER's Fœdera, that one thousand Archers were to be sent to the DUKE of BURGANDY, whose pay is settled at sixpence a-day; which is more than a common soldier receives clear in the present times, when provisions are much dearer, and the value of money so much decreased.

This circumstance seems to prove very clearly, the great estimation in which Archers were still held. In the same year EDWARD, preparing for a war with France, directs the sheriffs to procure bows and arrows, as most specially requisite and necessary.

RICHARD III. by his attention to Archery, was able to ſend one thouſand bow-men to the DUKE of BRETAGNE; and he availed himſelf of the ſame troops at the battle of Boſworth: At this battle the Archers, on the ſide of KING RICHARD, were commanded by the DUKE of NORFOLK; and the EARL of OXFORD was Captain of thoſe of the EARL of RICHMOND.

HENRY VII. directs a large body of Archers to be ſent to Brittany, and that they ſhall be reviewed before they embark. In the 19th year of his reign, the ſame king forbids the uſe of the croſs-bow; "becauſe the long-bow had been "much uſed in this realm, whereby honour and "victory had been gotten againſt outward ene-"mies, and the realm greatly defended."

This King inſtituted a band of Archers to guard his perſon, under the title of *Yeomen of the Guard*. This band is at preſent eſtabliſhed; but they are now armed with ſwords and halberts, inſtead of bows. Still, however, to keep up the memory of their predeceſſors ſkill, they annually practice ſhooting with bows and arrows

HENRY VIII. in the 3d year of his reign, directs, that every father ſhould provide a bow

and two arrows for his ſon, when he ſhall be ſeven years old. Alſo in the 6th of the ſame king's reign, every one, except clergy and judges, are obliged to ſhoot at butts.

Anno 1510, FERDINAND, King of Arragon, ſoliciting ſuccours from HENRY VIII. againſt the MOORS in Africa, his deſires were complied with, and fifteen hundred Archers ſent him under the command of THOMAS LORD DARCY.

Anno 1513, JAMES IV. King of Scotland, invaded the Engliſh borders while KING HENRY was in France. The EARL of SURREY, being Lord Lieutenant, raiſed the Militia of the northern counties, amounting to twenty-ſix thouſand men, and advanced to meet him. The battle (which happened at Flowden Field) was bloody and terminated in the total defeat of the Scots; whoſe King, with the Archbiſhop of St. Andrews, two Abbots, twelve Earls, and ſeventeen Lords, were ſlain in battle. The victory, in a great meaſure, ſeems to have been owing to SIR EDWARD STANLEY and his Archers.

The names of the nobility and gentry who were preſent, with their tenants, at this memorable battle, are recorded in a curious old Poem, ſaid to have been written by a ſchoolmaſter at Ingleton, in the Weſt Riding of the county of York, which is particularly intereſting, as it preſents a

ſtriking picture of the manner of raiſing our ancient Militia, the true conſtitutional force of this country: Men, who were one day at the plough, and the next ranged under the banners of their reſpective leaders with arms in their hands, which they uſed only againſt the hoſtile invader; whom having repelled, the ſurvivors returned to their reſpective employments, amidſt the congratulations of their deareſt connections, their friends, and their countrymen.

Then might you ſee on every ſide*
The ways all fill'd with men of war;
Here ſilken ſtreamers waving wide,
There poliſh'd helms gliſt'ring afar.

From Lancaſhire and Cheſhire faſt
They to the luſty STANLEY drew;
From Hornby where as he in haſt
Set forward with a comely crew.

What banners brave before him blaz'd,
The people mus'd where he did paſs;
Poor huſbandmen were much amaz'd,
And women wond'ring, cried,—alas!

Young wives did weep in woeful cheer,
To ſee their friends in harneſs dreſt:
Some rent their clothes, ſome tore their hair,
Some held their babes unto their breaſt.

* Henry Jenkins believed he might be about twelve years of age at the time of the battle of Flowden Field, when he was ſent to Northallerton with an horſe-load of arrows, which a bigger boy had the charge of from thence to the army under the Earl of Surrey.

There woeful mothers mourning ſtood,
Viewing their ſons harneſs'd on horſe:
And ſhouting ſhriek'd when they forth rode,
And of their lives took little force.

From Penigent to Pendle-hill,
From Linton to Long Addingham,
And all that Craven coaſts did till,
They with the luſty CLIFFORD came*.

All Staincliffe hundred went with him,
With ſtriplings ſtrong from Whorledale,
And all that Hanton hills did climb,
With Longſtroth eke and Litton Dale.

Next whom LORD LUMLEY † and LATIMER ‡,
Were equal match'd with all their pow'r;
With whom was next their neighbour near,
LORD CONYERS ſtout and ſtiff in ſtoure §.

SIR-WALTER AUFITH, ſage and grave,
Was with SIR HENRY SHERBURN bent;
And under BULMER's banner brave
The Biſhopric of Durham went ||.

* Henry, the thirteenth Lord Clifford, on account of the hatred the Houſe of York bore to his family, was concealed in the diſguiſe of a ſhepherd, from ſeven years old till he arrived at his thirty-ſecond year; when, in the firſt parliament of Henry VII. he was reſtored in blood and honour, to all his baronies, lands, and caſtles. He died in 1523.

† John Lord Lumley married Joan, ſiſter to Lord Scroop of Bolton.

‡ John Neville Lord Latimer, married Catherine Par, and leaving her a widow, ſhe became the laſt wife of Henry VIII.

§ William Lord Conyers of Hornby Caſtle, near Richmond in Yorkſhire, married Maud, daughter of Henry Percy Earl of Northumberland.

|| There were many ancient families in the North of England at this time, whoſe names are not mentioned in this Poem. But it muſt be remembered, that the King, with a great part of his nobility, and a numerous army, was then in France.

Whom enſued Sir Christopher Ward,
With him Sir Edward Effingham;
Next went Sir Nicholas Appleyard,
Sir Metham, Sidney, Everingham.

Next went Sir Bold and Butler brave,
Two luſty Knights of Lancaſhire;
Then Burkerton bold and Bygot grave,
With Warcup wild, a worthy ſquire.

Next Richard Cholmley and Christon ſtout,
With men of Hatfield and of Hull;
Laurence of Dun with all his rout,
The people freſh with them did pull.

John Clartice then was 'nexed near
With Stapylton of ſtomach ſtern;
Next whom Fitz-William forth did fare,
Who martial faites was not to learn.

The next the left-hand wing did wield,
Sir Marmaduke Constaele old *;
With him a troop well tried in field,
And eke his ſons and kinsfolk bold.

Next him in place was 'nexed near
Lord Scroop † of Bolton ſtern and ſtout,
On horſeback who had not his peer,
No Engliſhman Scots more did doubt.

With him did wend all Wenſadale,
From Morton unto Moiſdale Moor;
All they that dwelt on th' Banks of Swale,
With him were bent in harneſs ſtour.

* Sir Marmaduke Conſtable was High Sheriff of the county of York, A. D. 1509

† John Lord Scroop married Catherine, daughter of Henry Clifford Earl of Cumberland.

From Wereſdale warlike wights did wend,
From Biſhop's Dale went bow-men bold,—
From Coverdale to Cotter-end,
And all to Kidſton cauſey cold;

From Mollerſtang and Middleham,
And all from Maſk and Middleconby,
And all that climb the mountain Cam,
Whoſe crown from ſnow is ſeldom free;

With luſty lads and large of length
Which dwelt at Seimer water-ſide,
All Richmondſhire its total ſtrength
The luſty SCROOP did lead and guide.

Next went SIR PHILIP TILNEY tall,
With him SIR THOMAS BARKLEY brave,
SIR JOHN RADCLIFFE in arms royal,
And eke SIR WILLIAM GASCOIN grave.

Next whom did paſs with all his rout,
SIR CHRISTOPHER PICKERING proud,
With SIR BRYAN STAPYLTON ſtout,
Two valiant knights of noble blood.

Next with SIR JOHN STANLEY there yede
The BISHOP of ELY's ſervants bold,
SIR LIONEL PERCY eke did lead
Some hundred men well tried and told.

Next went SIR MINHAM MARKINFIL *
In armour-coat of cunning work;
The next went SIR JOHN MAUNDEVILL,
With him the citizens of York.

* Markenfield of Markenfield nigh Ripon, a knightly family, whoſe only remaining branch is James Markenfield; now inhabiting a ſmall cottage in Stammergate, Ripon, reduced in circumſtances, oppreſſed with age, but ſtill reſpected.

Sir George Darcy in banner bright
Did bear a bloody broken ſpear,
Next went Sir Magnus with his might,
And Chostance bold of luſty cheer.

Sir Guy Dawnie with his glorious rout,
And then M'Dawbie's ſervants bold,
Then Richard Tempest with his rout,
In rere-ward thus their 'ray did hold.

The right-hand wing with all his rout
The luſty Lord Dacres did lead *,
With him the bows of Kendal ſtout
With milk-white coats and croſſes red.

All Keſwick eke and Cockermouth,
And all from Copeland's craggy hills,
All Weſtmoreland both north and ſouth,
Whoſe weapons were huge maſſy bills.

All Carliſle eke and Cumberland,
They with Lord Dacres proud did paſs,
From Branton and from Broughly ſands
From Grayſtone and from Raven-Glaſs.

With ſtriplings ſtrong from Stanemore ſide,
And Auſtin-moor men marched kene;
All thoſe that Gilſland grave did hide,
With horſemen light from Heſham-Leaven.

All theſe did march in Dacres' band,
All theſe enſued his banner broad;
No luſtier Lord was in the land,
Nor more might boaſt of birth and blood.

* Thomas Dacre Lord Dacre of Gilſland.

Moſt lively lads in Lonſdale bred,
With weapons of unweildy weight,
All ſuch as Tatham Fells had fed,
Went under STANLEY's ſtreamer bright.

From Bowland bill-men bold were boun,
With ſuch as Botton banks did hide;
From Wharemore up to Whittington,
And all to Wenning water-ſide.

From Silverdale to Kent Sand-ſide,
Whoſe ſoil is ſown with cockle ſhells,
From Cartmel eke and Conney ſide,
With fellows fierce from Furnace Fells.

From Warton unto Warrington,
From Wigan unto Wireſdale,
From Wedicar to Waddington,
From old Ribcheſter to Ratchdale.

From Poulton and Preſton, with pikes,
They with the STANLEY ſtout forth went,
From Pemberton and Pilling-Dikes
For battle bill-men bold were bent.

Thus STANLEY ſtout the laſt of all
Of the rere-ward the rule did wield;
Which done, to Bolton in Glendale,
The total army took the field.

Thus marched forth theſe men of war,
And every band their banner ſhew'd,
And trumpets hoarſe were heard afar
And glittering harneſs ſhining view'd.

The founding bows were ſoon up bent,
Some did their arrows ſharp up take;
Some did in hand their halberts hent,
Some ruſty bills did ruſſling ſhake.

. . . . . .

With the rere-ward the river paſt,
All ready in ranks and battle array,
They had no need more time to waſte,
For victuals they had none that day:

Yet they ſuch ſtedfaſt faith did bear,
Unto their King and native land,
Each one the other did up cheer
Gainſt foes to fight whilſt they could ſtand,

And never flee whilſt life did laſt,
But rather die by dint of ſword.
Thus over plains and hills they paſs'd
Until they came to Sandiford,

A brook of breadth a tailor's yard,
Where th' EARL of SURREY thus did ſay,
"Good fellow ſoldiers, be not fear'd,
"But fight it out like men this day."

Strike but three ſtrokes with ſtomach ſtout,
And ſhoot each man ſharp arrows three,
And you ſhall ſee without all doubt
The beaten Scots begin to flee.

. . . . . .

The ADMIRAL did plain aſpect,
The Scots array'd in battles four:
The man was ſage and circumſpect,
And ſoon perceived that his power

So great a ſtrength cou'd not withſtand;
Wherefore he to his father ſent,
Deſiring him ſtraight out of hand
With rere-ward ready to be bent,

And join with him on equal ground:
Whereto the EARL agreed anon;
Then drum ſtruck up with dreadful ſound,
And trumpets blew with doleful tone.

The ENGLISHMEN their feather'd flights,
Sent out anon from ſounding bow,
Which wounded many warlike wights,
And many a groom to ground did throw.

On either ſide were ſoldiers ſlain *,
And ſtricken down by ſtrength of hand;
That who cou'd win, none weet might plain,
The victory in doubt did ſtand.

Till at the laſt great STANLEY ſtout,
Came marching up the mountain ſteep,
His folks cou'd hardly faſt their feet,
But forc'd on hands and feet to creep.

"My Lancaſhire moſt lively wights,
"And choſen mates of Cheſhire ſtrong;
"From ſounding bow your feather'd flights,
"Let fiercely fly your foes among."

The noiſe then made the mountains ring,
And STANLEY ſtout, they all did cry,
Out went anon the grey gooſe wing,
And 'mongſt the Scots did flickering fly.

* Sir Bryan Tunſtal of Thurland Caſtle, a valiant Captain, was ſlain in this battle. He was interred in the chancel of Tunſtal church, where his effigy at full length, cut in ſtone, is placed recumbent upon his tomb.

The King himſelf was wounded ſore,
An arrow fierce in's forehead light,
That hardly he cou'd ſee his foes
The blood ſo blemiſhed his ſight.

Yet like a warrior ſtout he ſaid,
And fiercely did exhort that tide;
His men to be nothing diſmay'd,
But battle boldly there to bide.

But what avail'd his valour great,
Or bold device all was but vain;
His captains keen fail'd at his feet,
And ſtandard-bearer down was ſlain.

THE van-guard was led by LORD THOMAS and SIR EDWARD HOWARD. The centre by their father LORD SURREY; and the rear by SIR EDWARD STANLEY*. The LORD DACRES, with a body of horſe, was to act as a reſerve on all occaſions. The king of Scots exhorting his men to behave like ſoldiers, immediately joined battle. SIR EDWARD HOWARD for ſometime ſuſtained a heavy charge, and had nearly been routed by the ſingular valour of the EARLS of LENOX and ARGYLE, had not the LORD

* Sir Edward Stanley, after his return from this battle, began to build the magnificent Chapel of Hornby in Lancaſhire; on one par of which is an eagle cut in ſtone, and the following inſcription, "Edwardus Stanley, "Miles Dominis Monteagle, me fieri fecit." He dying before it was perfected, the pariſh finiſhed the body of the chapel, which is of inferior workmanſhip.

DACRES, with the Baſtard HERON, brought up the reſerve, and reſtored the fight.

LORD THOMAS HOWARD met with a brave reſiſtance from the EARLS of CRAUFORD and MONTROSE. The KING and the EARL of SURREY maintained a long and a ſharp diſpute, till SIR EDWARD STANLEY bringing up his Archers, who let fly their arrows with ſuch force and effect, that the Scots troops began to give way by opening their ranks. The KING perceiving the diſorder redoubled his efforts, and preſſing forward with irreſiſtible fury, had well nigh overthrown the Engliſh ſtandard, when LORD THOMAS HOWARD coming to the aſſiſtance of his father, and being joined by LORD DACRE's horſe, immediately gave a turn to the fortune of the day. The Scottiſh monarch, with the flower of his nobility and gentry, threw themſelves into a ring, in which form they did all that valiant men could do to defend themſelves; nor did any one exceed the King in perſonal valour; but being mortally wounded in the forehead with an arrow he fell, and with his life ended this fierce and cruel conflict. The royal corpſe being found the next morning, and acknowledged by ſeveral of both nations, was conveyed to the Charter-houſe, from thence to Shene, a Monaſtry in Surrey; "Where," ſays STOWE, "it remain-"ed for a time, in what order I am not certain; "but ſince the diſſolution of the Abbeys in the

" reign of EDWARD VI. HENRY GREY, then " Duke of Suffolk, keeping houſe there, I have " been ſhewed the ſame body, as was affirmed, " wrapped in lead, thrown into an old waſte " room, amongſt old timber, ſtone, lead, and " other rubbiſh." A ſtrange monument of human inſtability!

During the reign of HENRY VIII. ſeveral ſtatutes were made for the promotion of Archery. The 8th of ELIZABETH, chap. 10, regulates the price of bows*; and the 13th of the ſame reign, chap. 12, enacts, that " bow-ſtaves ſhall " be brought into the realme from the Hanſe-" towns and the eaſtward :" So that Archery ſtill continued to be an object of attention in the legiſlature.

IN a ſplendid ſhooting match at Windſor, before the King, when the exerciſe was nearly over, his Majeſty obſerving one of his guard, named BARLOW, preparing to ſhoot, ſaid to him, " Beat " them all, and thou ſhalt be Duke of Archers." BARLOW drew his bow, executed the King's command, and received the promiſed reward; being created DUKE of SHOREDITCH, that being the

* Eugh Bows, ... 2s. 8d. each.
Bow ſtrings, ... 0 6 per dozen.
Livery arrows, ... 1 10 per ſheaf.

place of his reſidence. Several others of the moſt expert markſmen were honoured with titles, as EARL of PANCRIDGE, MARQUIS of CLERKENWELL, &c.

The following letter inſerted in LODGE's *Illuſtrations of Britiſh Hiſtory*, ſerves to ſhew what attention was paid to this article in our armies ſo late as the year 1544.

The Lords of the Council to the Earl of Shrewſbury.

" After our right hearty commendations to " your L RDSHIP, where thies bearers THOMAS " SCARDEN, and JOHN STODDAR, the King's " bowyer and fletcher, do preſſently repair into " thoſe parts for the putting in order of the " bowes and arrows, as wele at Barwick, as other " places theire; and for theire help have alſo with " them three other bowyers and five fletchers. " Your Lordſhip ſhall underſtand, that we have " delivered unto them conduct-money, and alſo " wages for one month, to begin at their arrival, " after the rate following: That is to ſay, the " ſaid SCARDEN and STODDAR at XIId. by " the daye, and every of the ſaid fletchers and " bowyers VIIId. by the daye; praying your " Lordſhip to take order for continuance of " theire wages after the rate aforeſaid, when the " ſaid month ſhall be expired, for the time of

" their being there accordingly. And thus fare " your good Lordſhip right hartely well.

" From Baynard's Caſtle, the XXIId. day of " January 1544. Your Lordſhip's aſſured " loving friends.

" THOMAS WRIOTHESLEY,
" THOMAS WESTMINSTER,
" CHARLES SUFFOLK,
" WILLIAM PAGET."

KING HENRY VIII. and QUEEN CATHERINE, came from Greenwich to Shooter's Hill one May-Day, where they were received by two hundred Archers, clad in green, with a Captain perſonating ROBIN HOOD; who firſt ſhewed the King the ſkill of his Archers in ſhooting: after which the Ladies were conducted into the wood, and feaſted with veniſon and wine, in arbours and bowers curiouſly decorated.

ON the 17th of September 1583, the London Archers to the number of three thouſand, with each a long-bow and four arrows marched to a place near Shoreditch, called *Hodgſon's Fields*, where a tent was pitched for the chief citizens. Proclamation was made by ſound of trumpet that every man ſhould ſtand at leaſt forty feet from each ſide of the butts *.

* Theſe butts were diſtant from each other 148 yards.

This exercise lasted two days; on the evening of the second day the victors were led off the field mounted on horses, and attended by two hundred persons with each a lighted torch in his hand.

The dresses of this assembly would, at this day, be thought a little singular. The Archers were distinguished by green ribbons and sashes; most part of the company had hats and jerkins of black velvet, doublets of satin and taffety; and upwards of nine hundred persons, each of whom wore a chain of gold.

PRINCE HENRY, son of JAMES I. at eight years of age, learned to shoot both with the bow and gun; at the same time this prince had an officer in his establishment who was styled *Bow Bearer*.

CHARLES I. appears from the dedication of a treatise, entitled *The Bowman's Glory*, to have been himself an Archer. And, in the eighth year of his reign, he issued a commission to the Chancellor, Lord Mayor, and several of the Privy Council, to prevent the fields near London being so inclosed as to interrupt the necessary and profitable exercise of shooting; as also to lower the mounds where they prevented the view from one mark to another.

This Prince likewiſe iſſued two proclamations in 1631 and 1633, for the promotion of Archery; the laſt of which recommends the uſe of the bow and pike together.

On the 21ſt of March 1661, four hundred Archers marched with flying colours to Hyde-Park, where ſeveral of the Archers with croſs-bows ſhot near twenty ſcore yards; and ſome of them, to the amazement of the ſpectators, hit the mark at that very great diſtance: There were likewiſe three ſhowers of whiſtling arrows. So ſplendid was the appearance, and pleaſing the exerciſe, that three regiments of foot laid down their arms to join the ſpectators.

John King, of Hipperholm near Halifax, in Yorkſhire, was eſteemed the beſt Archer of his time in England. He was ſent for to the court of Charles I. and won great wagers. Being victor at a great ſhooting match at Manchester, during Cromwell's adminiſtration, ſome of the gentry cauſed him to be carried upon men's ſhoulders, crying "A King, a King!" Great numbers of republicans being preſent, were alarmed, and cried out as eagerly, "Treaſon, treaſon! "A plot, a plot!" He died in January 1675.

In the year 1675, three hundred and fifty Archers, moſt richly habited, appeared in Moorfields to compliment Sir Robert Viner, then Lord Mayor: From thence they marched through Moorgate, Cripplegate, and through Woodſtreet into Cheapſide; then they paſſed by the north-ſide of St. Paul's, and marched round into Cheapſide again, and ſo to Guildhall; where they waited to receive the King, and the then Lord Mayor. When the king had viewed and paſſed by the Archers, they marched to Chriſt-church, where a very noble dinner was given, at the expence of the Lord Mayor. Their ſtandard was guarded by ſix croſs-bow men; all the officers wore green ſcarfs, and every bowman a green ribbon.

The principal officers were Sir Robert Peyton, Knight, and Mr. Michael Arnold.

On the 26th of May following, the Archers rendezvouſed in the military ground near Bloomſbury, and marched from thence through part of Holborn, Chancery-Lane, Temple-Bar, and the Strand, to White-hall, being ſix abreaſt; yet, when the van reached Whitehall, the rear was not paſſed through Temple-Bar. From Whitehall they paſſed to Tothill-Fields; here they drew up and were reviewed by the King, who marched along their front ſeveral times. He was attended by the Dukes of York and Monmouth, and moſt of the nobility. The Archers were in num-

ber about a thouſand; the ſpectators near twenty times that number. During the courſe of the day ſeveral ſhowers of whiſtling arrows were diſcharged*, with which the company were exceedingly entertained.

CATHERINE of PORTUGAL, (Queen to CHARLES II.) ſeems to have been much pleaſed with the ſight of this exerciſe: For in 1676, by the contributions of SIR EDWARD HUNGERFORD and others, a ſilver badge for the Marſhal of the fraternity was made, weighing twenty-five ounces, and repreſenting an Archer drawing the long-bow, with the following inſcription:

REGINÆ CATHERINÆ SAGITTARII.

The ſupporters were two bow-men, with the arms of England and Portugal.

On the 14th of July, 1681, the London Archers, to the number of one thouſand, under the command of Mr. EDWARDS and Mr. HENRY WARREN, marched to Hampton-Court, to ſhoot for ſeveral pieces of plate, viz. Two ſilver cups and three dozen of ſilver ſpoons. The target was placed upon a butt erected on purpoſe upon the

* Theſe arrows are ſuppoſed to have been uſed by the picquet guards, to give notice to the camp of the enemy's approach during the night.

lawn before the palace. The King was pleaſed to honour them with his preſence on the occaſion; ſtaid near two hours, and permitted as many of the Archers as pleaſed to kiſs his hand—A mark of the pleaſure he took in viewing their exerciſe.

On Friday, April 21, 1682, the Archers under the command of Sir Edward Hungerford, Colonel M. Arnold, Lieutenant Colonel J. Mould, Major H. Warren, Lieutenant E. Donne, G. Walker, and J. Manley, Captains, met in the artillery ground and marched through Cornhill, Fleetſtreet, and the Strand, to Tothill-Fields. The King and moſt of the nobility honoured them with their company. There were at leaſt one thouſand Archers in the field. The recreation laſted for ſometime, during which three ſhowers of whiſtling arrows were diſcharged. The company, the Archers, and the exerciſe taken altogether, it was ſuppoſed, exceeded any thing of the kind that had hitherto been ſeen in England.

In Scotland little leſs attention, though apparently not with equal ſucceſs, was paid to the encouragement of this art. In both kingdoms it was provided that the importers of merchandiſe ſhould be obliged, along with their articles of commerce, to import a certain proportion of bows,

bow-ſtaves, and ſhafts for arrows. In both every perſon was enjoined to hold himſelf provided in bows and arrows: and was preſcribed the frequent uſe of Archery. In both a reſtraint was impoſed upon the exerciſe of other games and ſports, leſt they ſhould interfere with the uſe of the bow; for it was intended that people ſhould be made expert in the uſe of it as a military weapon, by habituating them to the familiar exerciſe of it as an inſtrument of amuſement.

As there was no material difference between the activity and bodily ſtrength of the two people, it might be ſuppoſed that the Engliſh and Scots wielded the bow with an equal vigour and dexterity: But from undoubted hiſtorical monuments it appears, that the former had the ſuperiority. The Engliſh ſhot with a very long bow. Thoſe who were arrived at their full growth and maturity, being prohibited from ſhooting at any mark that was not diſtant upwards of two hundred and twenty yards. In the uſe of the bow great dexterity, as well as ſtrength, ſeems to have been requiſite. Though we hear of arrows at Cheviot Chaſe which were a yard long; yet it is by no means to be ſuppoſed, that the whole band made uſe of ſuch, or could draw them to the head.

The regulation of the Statute of EDWARD IV. viz. "That the bow ſhall not exceed the height "of a man," is allowed by Archers to have been

well conſidered; and as the arrow ſhould be half the length of the bow, this would give an arrow of a yard in length to thoſe only who were ſix feet high. A ſtrong man of this ſize in the preſent times, cannot eaſily draw above twenty-ſeven inches, if the bow is of a proper ſtrength to do execution at a conſiderable diſtance. At the ſame time it muſt be admitted, that as our anceſtors were obliged by ſome of the old ſtatutes, to begin ſhooting with the long-bow at the age of ſeven, they might have acquired a greater ſlight in this exerciſe than their deſcendants.

Not many years ago, there was a man named TOPHAM, who exhited ſurpriſing feats of ſtrength, and who happened to be at a public houſe near Iſlington, to which the Finſbury Archers reſorted after their exerciſe. TOPHAM conſidered the long-bow as a play-thing, only fit for a child; upon which one of the Archers laid him a bowl of punch that he could not draw the arrow two thirds of its length. TOPHAM accepted the propoſal with the greateſt confidence; but bringing the arrow to his breaſt inſtead of his ear, he was greatly mortified by paying the wager, after many fruitleſs efforts.

As to the diſtance to which an arrow can be ſhot from a long bow, with the beſt elevation of forty-five degrees, that muſt neceſſarily depend

much both upon the ſtrength and ſlight of the Archer; but in general the diſtance was reckoned from eleven to twelve ſcore yards *.

According to NEAD, an Archer might ſhoot ſix arrows in the time of charging and diſcharging one muſquet.

Arrows are reckoned by ſheaves; a ſheaf conſiſting of twenty-four arrows *. They were carried in a quiver, called alſo an *arrow-caſe*, which ſerved for the magazine. Arrows for immediate uſe were carried in the girdle. In ancient times phials of quicklime, or other combuſtible matter for burning houſes or ſhips was fixed on the heads of arrows, and ſhot from long-bows. Arrows with wild-fire, and arrows for fire-works, are mentioned among the ſtores at Newhaven and Berwick, 1ſt of EDWARD VI.

To protect our Archers from the attacks of the enemy's horſe, they carried long ſtakes pointed at both ends: Theſe they planted in the earth, ſloping before them. In the firſt of EDWARD VI. three hundred and thirty of theſe ſtakes were in the ſtores of the town of Berwick; there were alſo at the ſame time eight bundles of Archers' ſtakes in Pontefract Caſtle.

* By the 33d of HENRY VIII. no one aged twenty-four, was to ſhoot at any mark under eleven ſcore yards.

† GROSE on ancient armour.

THE following deſcription of an Archer and his accoutrements is given in a MS. written in the time of QUEEN ELIZABETH.

" Captains and officers ſhould be ſkilful of that " moſt noble weapon; and to ſee that their ſol- " diers, according to their draught and ſtrength, " have good bows, well nocked, well ſtringed, " everie ſtring whippe in their nocke, and in " the myddes rubbed with wax,—braſer and " ſhutting glove,—ſome ſpare ſtrynges trymed " as aforeſaid; every man one ſheaf of arrows, " with a caſe of leather, defenſible againſt the " rayne, and in the ſame fower and twentie ar- " rows; whereof eight of them ſhould be lighter " than the reſidue, to gall or aſtoyne the enemy " with the hail-ſhot of light arrows, before they " ſhall come within the danger of their harquebuſe " ſhot. Let every man have a brigandine or a " little cote of plate, a ſkull or hufkin, a maule " of lead, of five feet in length, and a pike, " and the ſame hanging by his girdle, with a " hook and a dagger; being thus furniſhed, teach " them by muſters to march, ſhoote, and retire, " keeping their faces upon the enemy's. Sumtime " put them into great numbers, as to battell ap- " parteyneth, and there uſe them often times " practiſed till they be perfect; for thoſe men in " battell ne ſkirmiſh cannot be ſpared. None " other weapon maye compare with the ſame " noble weapon."

THE ancient records of the Royal Company of Archers in Scotland, having been deſtroyed by fire, about the beginning of the preſent century, no authentic traces of their inſtitution now remains. It is ſaid, that they owe their origin to the Commiſſioners appointed in the reign of JAMES I. of Scotland, for enforcing and overſeeing the exerciſe of Archery in different counties. Theſe Commiſſioners, who were in general men of rank and power, picking out amongſt the better ſort of people, under their cognizance, the moſt expert Archers, formed them into a company, and upon perilous occaſions made a preſent of their ſervices to the king as his chief body guards. In which ſituation they often diſtinguiſhed themſelves for their loyalty, their courage, and ſkill in Archery. This rank of the King's principal body-guards, the Royal Company ſtill claim within ſeven miles of the metropolis of Scotland.

The Company at preſent conſiſts of about one thouſand in number; among whom are moſt of the Scottiſh nobility of the firſt diſtinction. A number of theſe gentlemen meet weekly during the ſummer ſeaſon in Edinburgh, and exerciſe themſelves in the Meadows, ſhooting at butts or rovers. In the adjoining ground they have a handſome building, erected within theſe twelve years, with ſuitable offices, whither they adjourn after their

exercise, and where they hold their elections, and other meetings relative to the business of the Society.

The prizes belonging to this company, and which are annually shot for, are; 1st. A Silver Arrow, given by the town of Musselburgh, which appears to have been shot for as early as the year 1603. The victor in this, as in other prizes, except the King's prize, has the custody of it for a year, and then returns it with a medal appended, on which are engraved any motto and device which the gainer's fancy dictates. 2d. A Silver Arrow, given by the town of Peebles, A. D. 1626. 3d. A Silver Arrow, given by the city of Edinburgh, A D. 1709. 4th. A Silver Punch Bowl, of the value of about fifty pounds, made of Scottish silver, at the expence of the Company, A. D. 1720. 5th. A Piece of Plate, value twenty pounds, called the King's Prize, 5... 1627. This prize becomes the absolute property of the winner.

All these prizes are shot for at what is termed *rovers*; the marks being placed at the distance of one hundred and eighty-five yards.

Besides these there is another prize annually contended for at butt, or point-blank distance, called the *Goose*. The ancient manner of shooting for this prize was,—a living goose being built in a

turf-butt, with his head only expoſed to view; the Archer who firſt hit the gooſe's head was entitled to the gooſe as his reward. But this cuſtom, on account of its barbarity, has been long ago laid aſide; and in place of the gooſe's head, a mark of about an inch diameter, is affixed upon each butt; and the Archer who firſt hits this mark is captain of the butt-ſhooters for a year.

The affairs of the Company are managed by a Preſes and ſix Councellors, who are choſen annually by the whole members. The Council are veſted with the power of receiving or rejecting candidates for admiſſion, and of appointing the Company's officers civil and military.

The uniform of the Royal Company of Archers is tartan, lined with white, and trimmed with green and white fringes; a white ſaſh with green taſſels; and a blue bonnet, with a St. Andrew's Croſs and feathers. The Company have two ſtandards: The firſt of theſe bears on one ſide Mars and Cupid encircled in a wreath of thiſtles, with this motto, "IN PEACE AND WAR." On the other a eugh tree, with two men dreſſed and equipped as Archers, encircled as the former—motto, "DAT GLORIA VIRES."

The other ſtandard diſplays on one ſide a lion rampant, *gules*, on a field *or*, encircled with a

wreath; on the top a thiſtle and crown,—motto, "NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSET." On the other, St. Andrew on the croſs, on a field *argent*; at the top a crown,—motto, "DULCE PRO PATRIA PERICULUM."

ROGER ASCHAM, who wrote a treatiſe on this art in the year 1544, mentions the bracer or leathern guard worn by Archers upon the left arm, to prevent it from being cut by the ſtring of the bow. But he recommends ſhooting without any bracer, as its uſe may be ſuperſeded by giving the bow a greater bend; that is about nine inches. The ſhooting glove was like the bracer, the ſame as at preſent. The bow-ſtring was made either of ſilk or hemp.

The bow he recommends to be made out of the bole of a eugh tree, and its ſtrength ſuch that the Archer could with moderate exertion draw an arrow to the head. The arrow was made of oak or birch, and was of different ſizes, according to the different purpoſes it was intended for; its length generally from twenty-ſeven to thirty-two inches; the longeſt were uſed in war.

He recommends a gooſe's feather for the ſhaft, as better than any other. The head of the arrow differed very much from the modern ones. Thoſe

uſed in ſhooting at the marks ſomewhat reſembling a pine apple, ſmooth at top, but furrowed longitudinally.

For war they uſed ſharp heads without any barb.

The arrow was always drawn to the ear when they ſhot at ſhort marks. At long marks or rovers, it was then neceſſary on account of the elevation, to be drawn to the breaſt.

The Archers did not ſhut either eye when they took aim; nor did they look at the arrow, but at the mark only.

BOW-MAKERS.

During the laſt century, the Kelsals of Manchester were the beſt bow and arrow makers in England; that family is now extinct. The art is revived by Joseph Wrigley and Co. of Cheetham near Manchester; who excel all others in the choice of wood, and accuracy of workmanſhip.

Bows and arrows are alſo made and ſold by Samuel Stanway near Northwich in Cheſhire.

There is alſo a manufactory for implements of Archery eſtabliſhed by Mr. Waring at Leiceſter Houſe.

In ancient times when the demand for theſe articles was univerſal, the buſineſs was divided into

ſeparate branches; from whence aroſe the following Sirnames, viz. BOWYER, BOWER, STRINGER, ARROWSMITH, FLETCHER, &c.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ARCHERS.

THESE counties have long been celebrated for their numerous and ſkilful Archers. About the year 1648, three brothers, JOHN, ROGER, and DANIEL RAWSON, became particularly famous in that ſcience: JAMES the ſon of JOHN is now (1792) living at Cheetham-Hill near Mancheſter, aged 76: From the age of eighteen to ſixty he never refuſed a challenge; nor ever loſt a match. In the above counties are many ſocieties of bowmen: Few market towns in Lancaſhire but have one or two ſets of butts placed at the ſeveral diſtances of 30, 60, 90, and 120 yards. The Lancaſhire bowmen hold their meetings at Cheetham-Hill every Wedneſday, from Lady-day to Michaelmas, at three in the afternoon. There is alſo a party, who ſhoot there every Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday, if the weather proves favourable.

MISS BOUVRE, near Warrington, is eſteemed the beſt Archereſs in the county. In ſupport of the ancient fame of Lancaſhire bowmen, LELAND, in his *Collectanea*, hath the following line,

LANCASHERE FAIRE ARCHERE.

SCORTON ARCHERS

BEGAN to ſhoot for a Silver Arrow at Scorton near Richmond, in Yorkſhire, May 14, 1673, and have continued ever ſince.

ARTICLES

Agreed upon by the SOCIETY *of* ARCHERS *at* SCORTON, *May* 14, 1673, *for the regulating of the annual exerciſe of ſhooting at the Targets for a Silver Arrow.*

I. IMPRIMIS. THAT every perſon intending to ſhoot at this, or other yearly game, for the future, ſhall depoſite and pay into the hands of the Captain and Lieutenant of the Archers (or of ſome others deputed and appointed by them Stewards to the Company of Archers for that year, the ſum of five ſhillings, or what other ſum ſhall from time to time be concluded and agreed upon by the major part of the Archers; the ſame to be done ſome convenient time before the general day of meeting to ſhoot at the ſaid targets, whereof notice to be publicly given, to the end, that Plate, and ſuch other prizes as are hereafter mentioned, may be had and provided in due time.

II. ITEM. UPON the day appointed for the ſaid exerciſe, all perſons concerned ſhall repair to the place for the ſaid purpoſe (to be appointed by the Captain of the Archers for that preſent year,

which place ſhall always be within ſix miles of Eriholme upon Tees, in the county of York, unleſs otherwiſe reſolved and agreed upon by the greater number of the Society of Archers preſent at the ſhooting down of the ſaid targets) by eight of the clock in the morning; when and where a note in writing ſhall be taken of theſe intending to ſhoot, (the Captain and Lieutenant excepted) and lots or figures of their numbers ſhall be drawn by ſome indifferent perſon; according to which figures they are to obſerve their ſeveral courſes and orders in ſhooting for that time; and if any come after the lots are drawn, they ſhall take their places, and ſhoot after the laſt figure and according to their coming.

III. ITEM. Two targets ſhall be then and there ready provided by the Captain and Lieutenant, (who hereby are and ſhall be exempted and freed from depoſiting any ſum or ſums of money, ſo long as either of them ſhall continue in their reſpective offices) with four circles aptly diſtinguiſhed with colours; whereof the innermoſt circle being gilded or yellow, ſhall be for the Captain's prize; and the next to that ſhall be for the Lieutenant's prize; and the third and fourth, or outermoſt circumferences, ſhall be for ſuch ſpoons or other prizes of a greater and leſſer value, according to the monies depoſited, as they ſhall be ordered and proportioned by the Captain and

Lieutenant, and three of the Company of Archers then and there preſent.

IV. ITEM. The ſaid targets ſhall be ſet in ſome open and plain field, upon two ſtraw baſts or mats, breaſt-high from the ground, each being diſtant from the other at leaſt eight ſcore yards, at which diſtance three rounds ſhall be ſhot by all the Company, with what manner of ſhaft (not exceeding two ſhafts) every one pleaſeth. The Captain and Lieutenant beginning firſt, and then the reſt two and two, in order, according to their ſeveral lots and numbers, till the ſaid rounds be ſhot out at the firſt ſtand; after which they ſhall remove in ten yards, and there ſhoot other three rounds in manner aforeſaid; and then remove in ten yards more, and ſhoot three rounds there; and ſo forwards from ſtand to ſtand, or one removal to another till all the prizes be gotten or ſhot down; provided that their ſaid approach to the targets be never nearer than ſixty yards, at which diſtance they muſt ſtand to ſhoot them out, if not won before.

V. ITEM. Such perſon as in his due order and place ſhall firſt pierce or break the Captain's Prize, or any parts thereof with his arrow, (that is to ſay) ſo as his arrow or any part thereof ſhall be within the circle dividing between red and gold, ſhall have the ſilver arrow from the reſt, and ſhall

be eſteemed and adjudged Captain of the Archers, and ſhall have and enjoy all privileges due and belonging to that office, during the year enſuing; and further ſhall have twenty ſhillings of ſuch monies as ſhall be depoſited by the Company of Archers at their next annual meeting for ſhooting at the targets; when he ſhall and muſt bring in the ſaid ſilver arrow, to be ſhot for in manner and form aforeſaid. The ſame to be done and performed yearly about Whitſuntide, to and by all the ſucceſſive Captains. Alſo he that in like manner pierceth the Lieutenant's Prize or Circle, ſhall have ſuch prize or piece of plate as ſhall be allotted and appointed by the Captain and Lieutenant for that time. Likewiſe he that firſt pierceth either of the other circumferences ſhall have one ſpoon (or ſuch other prize as ſhall be appointed for the ſame circle as aforeſaid) for every arrow wherewith he ſhall pierce or break them, in caſe all the prizes belonging to them be not gotten before. Alſo he that pierceth any of the inner circles in manner aforeſaid, whereout the prize or prizes were won before, ſhall have one of the beſt prizes remaining in the circle, next to that which he ſhall ſo hit, provided that the ſpoons and ſuch other prizes as ſhall be deſigned for the ſaid two outermoſt circles ſhall be of two ſeveral rates and values; and the better of them ſhall be allotted and appointed for the circle and circumference next to the Lieutenant's.

VI. ITEM. If any of the Company shall presume to shoot at the targets out of his due turn of standing, he shall loose his shot for that round (or having shot before) in the next round following: And if any be absent from the stand to shoot in his turn according to his figure, then the next figure there present shall shoot on, that no time may be lost, and shall have such prize as he shall then win. Nevertheless such absent figure may, at his coming to the place of standing, have liberty to shoot during that round, if the Captain so please and appoint, either at the time of his coming, or at the end of the same round, provided that he come before the beginning of the next round.

VII. ITEM. Forasmuch as the Exercise of Archery is lawful, laudable, healthful, and innocent; and to the end that God's holy name may not be dishonoured by any of that Society, it is agreed and hereby declared, that if any one of them shall that day curse or swear in the hearing of any of the company, and the same be proved before the Captain and Lieutenant, he shall forthwith pay down one shilling, and so proportionably for every oath; to be distributed by the Captain to the use of the poor of that place or township where they shoot. And in case of refusal or neglect to pay the same, then such party to be excluded from shooting any more till payment is made as aforesaid.

VIII. AND LASTLY. All the Company of Archers ſhall, on the day of ſhooting at the targets as aforeſaid, dine with the Captain and Lieutenant at ſome ordinary appointed for them near the place of ſhooting; and if any of them ſhall refuſe or neglect ſo to do, or not dining with them, ſhall pay one ſhilling to the Captain or Lieutenant for his ordinary; then the party ſo offending ſhall loſe and forfeit the privilege of ſhooting in the round next following after dinner.

NAMES of the CAPTAINS and LIEUTENANTS of the SCORTON ARCHERS,

From 1673 *to* 1791;

The TIMES when, and PLACES where the SOCIETY met, and the number of SHOOTERS that appeared at each Meeting.

Time when shot for.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Place and No. of shooters.
1673, May 14.	HENRY CALVERLEY, Esq; -	WILLIAM WHEATLEY, - - -	Scorton, - - - 22
1674, June 4.	GEORGE DOBSON, - - - - -	GEORGE DOBSON, - - - - -	Barton, - - - 22
1675, May 20.	Mr. SAMUEL BIRKBECK, - -	G. DOBSON and T. ALLENSON,	Eriholme, - - 23
1676, May 9.	THOMAS DODSWORTH, Esq; -	Mr. SAMUEL BIRKBECK, - -	Croft, - - - - 17
1677, May 10.	Mr. JOHN DAWSON, - - - -	Mr. SAMUEL BIRKBECK, - -	Croft, - - - - 14
1678, Sept. 5.	LEO. BRAKENBURY, - - - -	Mr. LOFTUS SQUIRE, - - - -	Melsonby, - - 7
1679, June 11.	JOHN MURTON, - - - - -	Mr. JOHN DAWSON, - - - -	Melsonby, - - 5
1680, June 8.	THOMAS GYLL, Gent. - - - -	Mr. LOFTUS SQUIRE, - - - -	Melsonby, - - 9
1681, May 12.	NICHOLAS THOMPSON, - - -	LEO. BRAKENBURY, - - - -	Barton, - - - 7
1683, June 13.	THOMAS GARTHORN, - - - -	NICHOLAS COLE, Esq; - - -	Eriholme, - - 12
1684, May 13.	PHILIP ETHERINGTON, - -	PHILIP ETHERINGTON, - - -	Eriholme, - - 14
1685, May 12.	RICHARD WILKINSON, - - -	RICHARD MARSHALL, - - -	Eriholme, - - 19
1686, June 8.	Mr. RICHARD GRIMSTON, -	JOHN SADLER, - - - - - - -	Eriholme, - - 22
1687, May 19.	LEO. BRAKENBURY, - - - -	PERCIVAL ROBINSON, - - -	Melsonby, - - 18
1688, July 25.	Mr. RICHARD GRIMSTON, -	PHILIP ETHERINGTON, - -	Melsonby, - - 15
1689, July 4.	LEO. BRAKENBURY, - - - -	JOHN LAWSON, - - - - - - -	Melsonby, - - 14

Time when shot for.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Place and No. of shooters.
1690, June 12.	Leo. Brakenbury, - - - -	Nicholas Thompson, - - -	Melsonby, - - 12
1691, June 18.	William Garthorn - - -	John Pilkington, Gent. -	Melsonby, - - 13
1692, May 31.	Mr. Reginald Steadman,	Mr. George Hartley, - -	Darlington, - - 15
1693, May 30.	Mr. George Hartley, - -	Mr. George Trotter, - -	Barton, - - - 12
1694, May 30.	Mr. George Hartley, - -	Mr. George Trotter, - -	Middleton-Tyas, 14
1695, July 1.	Mr. Marmaduke Hartley,	Leonard Brakenbury, -	Melsonby, - - 12
1696, July 2.	Mr. Marmaduke Hartley,	Mr. Thomas Gyll, - - - -	Barton, - - - 13
1697, July 29.	William Raine - - - - -	William Raine, - - - - -	Middleton-Tyas, 14
1700, July 2.	Marmaduke Hartley, - -	Thomas Gyll, - - - - - -	Barton, - - - 15
1702, Oct. 1.	Robert Eden, Esq; - - - -	Mr. William Raine, - -	Darlington, - 9
1703, June 4.	Nicholas Thompson, - - -	George Harland, - - - -	Peircebridge, - 11
1704, Aug. 16.	Nicholas Thompson, - - -	Leonard Brakenbury, - -	Barton, - - - 15
1705, Aug. 1.	Nicholas Thompson, - - -	Nicholas Thompson, - -	Barton, - - - 13
1706, Aug. 14.	Mr. Anthony Hammond, -	Ralph Lodge, - - - - - -	Barton, - - - 11
1707, June 5.	Mr. Christ. Bridgewater,	Mr. Jos. Etherington, -	Hartforth, - - 10
1708, Aug. 27.	Mr. Robert Robinson, - -	Mr. Richard Wilson, - - -	Hartforth, - - 17
1709, July 5.	Mr. Edward Horner, - -	Nicholas Thompson, - - -	Richmond, - - 18
1710, June 27.	Richard Hutchinson and Robert Robinson,	Thomas Thwaites, - - - -	Richmond, - - 11
1711, Aug. 15.	Leonard Brakenbury - -	George Garnet, - - - - -	Richmond, - - 13

Time when ſhot for.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Place and No. of ſhooters.
1712, Sept. 16.	Mr. HAMMOND, - - - - - -	Mr. THEOBALDS, - - - - -	Richmond, - - 21
1713, Sept. 16.	Mr. THOMAS THWAITES, -	RICHARD WILSON, - - - - -	Hartforth, - - 24
1714, Aug. 16.	Mr. JOHN ROBINSON, - - -	Mr. EDWARD HORNER, - -	Richmond, - - 13
1715, July 19.	Mr. LEONARD HARTLEY, -	RICHARD WILSON, - - - - -	- - - - - - - 12
1716, Nov. 5.	Mr. JOHN WILKINSON, - - -	Mr. THOMAS THWAITES, - -	Barton, - - - 17
1717, July 18.	REV. JOHN WILKINSON, - -	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Percebridge, - 9
1718, July 22.	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Mr. EDWARD BELL, - - - -	Richmond, - - 17
1719, May 28.	Mr. THOMAS THWAITES, - -	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Richmond, - - 8
1720, June 30.	CUTHBERT BOUTH, Eſq; - -	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Richmond, - - 12
1721, Sept. 29.	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Mr. EDWARD BELL, - - - -	Richmond, - - 17
1722, Sept. 6.	ACLOM MILBANKE, Eſq; - -	CUTHBERT ROUTH, Eſq; - -	Richmond, - - 15
1723, Sept. 6.	Mr. EDWARD BELL, - - - -	Mr. JAMES WHITE, - - - -	Black Bull, - - 15
1724, May 28.	ACLOM MILBANKE, Eſq; - -	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Richmond, - - 10
1725, Sept. 9.	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Black Bull, - - 8
1726, June 24.	CODRINGTON JOHN PRESSICK,	Mr. JAMES WHITE, - - - -	Richmond, - - 13
1727, June 9.	ROBERT ROBINSON, - - - -	WILLIAM DOBSON, Gent. - -	Yarm, - - - - 12
1728, July 15.	Dr. BELL, Captain, - - - - -	Mr. ROBERT ROBINSON, - -	Croft, - - - - 16
1729, July 17.	WILLIAM BROWN, Eſq; - - -	JAMES COOKE, Eſq; - - - - -	Croft, - - - - 19
1730, June 11.	WILLIAM DAVILE, Jun. Eſq;	MATTHEW WASS, Eſq;	Richmond, - - 15
1731, Sept. 16.	Mr. CALEB REDSHAW, Jun.	Mr. HENRY NICHOLLS, Jun.	Richmond, - - 13

Time when ſhot for.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Place and No. of ſhooters.
1732, July 27.	Mr. JAMES WHITE, - - - -	Mr. THOMAS KELLY, - - -	Richmond, - - 17
1733, May 31.	Mr. JOSEPH COATES, - - -	WILLIAM BROWNE, Eſq; - -	Peircebridge, - 13
1734, June 20.	Mr. JOSEPH COATES, - - - -	Mr. PETER MARLEY, - -	Richmond, - - 14
1735, June 24.	Mr. JOSEPH COATES, - - - -	THOMAS THWAITES, - - - -	Richmond, - - 13
1736, June 16.	Mr. JOHN PLUMB, - - - -	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	Richmond, - - 16
1737, June 16.	Mr. PETER MARLEY, - - -	Mr. PETER MARLEY, - - -	Barton, - - - 20
1738, June 27.	REV. Mr. THEOBALDS, - - -	SIR HUGH SMITHSON, Bart.	Peircebridge, - 24
1739, July 5.	Mr. JAMES WHITE, - - - -	Mr. JOSEPH COATES, - - - -	Love-lane, - - 17
1740, July 17.	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	Mr. RICHARD SEYMOUR, - -	Peircebridge, - 10
1741, June 24,25.	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	Richmond, - 9
1742, Aug. 12.	Mr. JOSEPH COATES - - - -	Mr. THOMAS WATSON,	Richmond, - 9
1743, Aug. 2.	Mr. JOSEPH COATES - - - -	REV. Mr. THEOBALDS, - -	Richmond, - - 11
1744, Aug. 30.	Mr. RICHARD SEYMOUR, - -	Mr. JOHN PLUMB, - - - - -	Richmond - - 9
1745, Sept. 4.	SIR HUGH SMITHSON, Bart.	CALEB REDSHAW, Eſq; - - -	Peircebridge - 11
1746, Aug. 5.	Mr. JOSEPH COATES, - - - -	Mr. JOHN PLUMB, - - - - -	Stanwick, - - 18
1747, Aug. 27.	Mr. RICHARD ROBINSON, -	Mr. RICHARD SEYMOUR, - -	Richmond, - - 17
1748, Aug 25,26.	JOSEPH APPLEBY, - - - - -	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	Richmond, - - 12
1749, Aug. 8.	Mr. ISAAC TRUMAN, - - - -	Hon. THOMAS VANE, Eſq;	Darnton, - - 15
1750, July 25.	JOHN BOWER, Eſq; - - - - -	Hon. THOMAS VANE, Eſq;	Darlington, - 14
1751, Sept. 5, 6.	Mr. JOSEPH APPLEBY - - -	Hon. THOMAS VANE, Eſq; -	Darlington, - 16

Time when shot for.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Place and No. of shooters.
1752, Aug. 27.	JOHN COLLIER, Jun. - - - -	Mr. JOHN WRIGHT, - - - -	Darlington, - - 12
1753, July 5.	MARK MILBANKE, - - - - -	Mr. NICHOLSON, - - - - -	Darlington, - - 18
1754, July 25.	Rev. Mr. NICHOLSON, - - -	WILLIAM CHAYTOR, Esq; -	Scorton, - - - 19
1755, Aug. 14.	Mr. JONES, - - - - - - -	Mr. ROBINSON, - - - - - -	Hurworth, - - 20
1756, June 11.	ROBERT HALL, - - - - - -	ROBERT DAVISON, - - - - -	Richmond, - 14
1757, July 15.	THOMAS KITCHING, - - - -	Mr. THOMAS WATSON, - - -	Darlington, - 16
1757, July 15.	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - - -	GEORGE RICKERBY, - - - -	Darlington, - 16
1758, June 13.	JOHN WRIGHT, - - - - - -	JOHN WRIGHT, - - - - - -	Richmond, - 12
1759, June 21.	GEORGE RICKERBY, - - - -	ROBERT HALL, - - - - - -	Darlington, - 19
1760, June 25.	GEORGE RICKERBY, - - - -	ROBERT HALL, - - - - - -	Love-lane, - - 13
1761, July 7.	GEORGE RICKERBY, - - - -	THOMAS WATSON, - - - - -	Richmond, - - 16
1762, June 29.	GEORGE THOMPSON, - - - -	RICHARD HODGSON, - - - -	Richmond, - - 15
1763, July 12.	ROBERT HALL, - - - - - -	GEORGE RICKERBY, - - - -	Richmond, - - 15
1764, Oct. 11.	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	Darlington, - 14
1765, July 8.	THOMAS WATSON, - - - - -	THOMAS KELLY, - - - - -	Ferryhill, - - - 20
1766, June 18.	ROBERT HALL, - - - - - -	JOHN GAINFORD, - - - - - -	Darlington, - 16
1767, July 21.	Mr. THOMAS RAINE, - - - -	ROBERT JACKSON, - - - - -	Darlington, - 18
1768, May 24.	Mr. JAMES PORTEES, - - - -	Mr. JOHN GAINFORD, - - -	Hurworth, - - 14
1769, July 4.	Mr. JOHN GAINFORD, - - - -	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - - - -	Darlington, - - 7
1770, July 5.	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - - - -	Mr. THOMAS WATSON, - -	Richmond, - - 9

Time when shot for.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Place and No. of shooters.
1771, July 24.	Mr. JOHN GAINFORD, - - - -	Mr. GEORGE RICKERBY, - -	Darlington, - - 8
1772, July 15.	Mr. GEORGE RICKERBY, - -	Mr. JOHN GAINFORD, - - -	Richmond, - - 5
	In 1773 *and* 1774, *the* ARROW *was not shot for, no Gentlemen appearing.*		
1775, July 20.	Mr. THOMAS KELLY, - - -	Mr. ROBERT JACKSON, - -	Richmond, - - 5
1776, July 30.	Mr. THOMAS KELLY, - - -	Mr. MACFARLAN, - - - - -	Richmond, - - 6
	In 1777, *the* ARROW *was not shot for, no Gentlemen appearing.*		
1778, July 23.	Mr. THOMAS KELLY, - - -	Mr. ROBERT JACKSON, - - -	Richmond, - - 5
	In 1779 *and* 1780—*Not shot for.*		
1781, July 18.	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - -	JAMES GORDON, Esq; - - -	Richmond, - - 14
1782, June 26, 27.	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - - -	Mr. HENRY WILSON, - -	Darlington, - 18
1783, July 10.	JAMES WILSON, - - - -	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - - - -	Darlington, - - 7
1784, June 22.	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - - -	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - - - -	Darlington, - - 8
1785, July 5.	Mr. ROBERT HALL, - - -	Mr. MACFARLAN, - - - -	Darlington, - - 7
1786, Aug. 15.	Mr. THOMAS WATSON, - -	SEYMOUR HODGSON, Esq; - -	Darlington, - - 8
1787, June 26.	Mr. THOMAS WATSON, - -	Mr. JOHN HAYTON, - - - -	Darlington, - - 12
1788, June 27.	Mr. THOMAS WATSON, - -	Mr. MACFARLAN, - - - -	Darlington, - - 9
1789, Aug. 28.	Mr. JOHN GLENTON, - - -	Mr. MACFARLAN, - - - -	Richmond, - - 9
1790, Aug. 18.	Mr. MACFARLAN, - - - -	Mr. GLENTON, - - - - - -	Richmond, - - 9
1791, June 14.	Mr. MICHAEL BASSETT, - -	Mr. MACFARLAN - - - - - -	Richmond, - - 9

FINSBURY ARCHERS,

Inſtituted in the year 1753.

THE few gentlemen now remaining of this Society, are incorporated with the Archers' diviſion of the Hon. Artillery Company; and were among thoſe who attended his Majeſty in the proceſſion to St. Paul's on the 23d of April, 1789.

WHARFDALE ARCHERS,

Inſtituted in the year 1737.

ARTICLES.

WE whoſe names are underwritten, do hereby oblige ourſelves to meet every Thurſday, between the hours of three and ſix in the afternoon, at Mrs. BENTHAM's in Otley. And it is further agreed, that every Subſcriber who does not attend according to the above obligation, ſhall for every ſuch default forfeit ſixpence; and if he does attend ſhall pay ſixpence for his club, otherwiſe ſhall be deemed a defaulter. That his name, forfeiture, and day of the month be entered in a book, kept at Mrs. BENTHAM's for that purpoſe. That the forfeitures be paid on a day appointed by a majority of the Subſcribers. That if any one denies on that day to pay his forfeiture or forfeitures, as entered in the book, he ſhall be proſecuted

according to law; and his name upon such refusal, shall be struck out from the list of Subscribers. To prevent any disputes which may be occasioned by the difference of clocks and watches, Mrs. BENTHAM's clock only shall be referred to in all cases relating to the hours appointed as above for meeting. Dated the fourth day of August, 1737.

W. VAVASOUR,	B. KNIGHT,
THO. FAWKES,	HEN. MITTON,
HEN. ATKINSON,	JAS. ROBINSON,
AYS. FAWKES,	ANTH. FOSTER,
FR. FAWKES,	R. MUSGRAVE,
JOHN FAWKES,	THOMAS BOOTH,
WM. BULKLEY,	THO. HARRISON.
C. VAVASOUR,	

How long this Society continued to meet is not now known*.

RICHMOND ARCHERS,

INSTITUTED within the borough of Richmond in Yorkshire, in the year 1755,—to meet and shoot for a Silver Cup, on Thursday in every week.

* I have been informed that the butts, used by this Society, were placed near Farnley Hall, and but lately demolished.

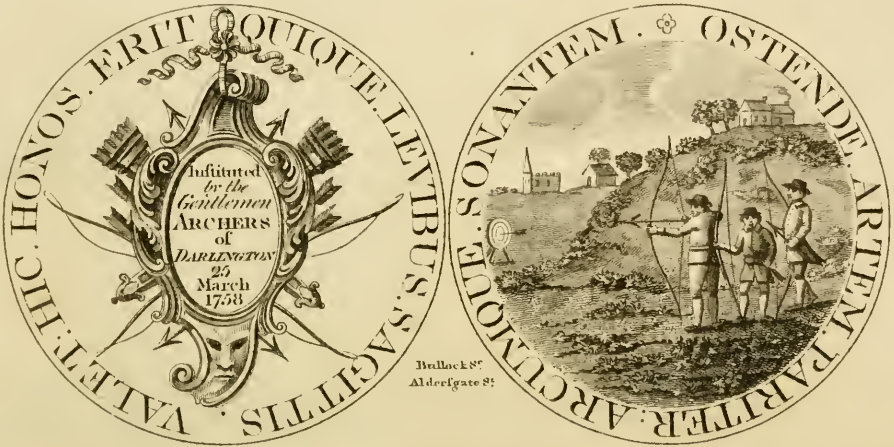
DARLINGTON ARCHERS,

INSTITUTED March the 25th, 1758,—to shoot for a Silver Medal and Gorget *; on which day the Articles were agreed upon, and signed by the following gentlemen †:

JAMES ALLAN,
ISAAC TRUMAN,
WM MOORE,
ROBERT HALL,
W. HUTCHINSON,
RHD. SCRUTON,
GEO. RIDSDALE,
WM. NORTON, jun.
JOS. MORLEY,
THOMAS WATSON,
WM. HOLLAN,
THO. KITCHING,
RHD. HODGSON,
JOHN YORK,
PHIL. CARTER,
WM. AUNGLE,
JOHN WRIGHT,
RHD. SHERWOOD,
GEO. ALLAN,
H. THOMPSON,
J. MARSH,
JEREMIAH RUDD,
THO. BURREL,
JOS. APPLEBY,
WM. CHAYTOR,
RA. TUNSTALL,
FRA. LOWSON, jun.
RD RICHARDSON,
RD MEREWETHER,
JOSEPH DIXON,
EDWARD LOWSON,
THO. PIERSE, jun.
JOHN PEASE,
JOS. NICHOLSON,
HEN. CHAYTOR.

* The motto on the Gorget is, "SECUNDUS HOC CONTENTUS ABITO."

† There was afterwards a Silver Cup added as a third prize, on which is engraven, "TERTIUS HOC CONTENTUS."


VALET HIC HONOS ERIT QUIQUE LEVIBUS SAGITTIS
Instituted by the Gentlemen ARCHERS of DARLINGTON 25 March 1758
OSTENDE ARTEM PARTER ARCTUMQUE SONANTEM
Bullock 8c
Aldersgate St

Shooters at this meeting were,

Robert Hall,	Tho. Watson,
George Allan,	Wm. Moore,
Rhd. Hodgson,	W. Hutchinson,
Jos. Morley,	Geo. Ridsdale,
Rhd. Sherwood,	John Wright,
Tho. Kitching,	Wm. Hollan.

In September following, a Banner was added to the Medal and Gorget. On this Banner, which was of green silk, was embroidered or painted, several golden arrows, tied together with a riband, and surrounded by military trophies.

September 1, 1758.

Shooters at this meeting were,

Tho. Kitching,	M. Nicholson,
Tho. Watson,	G. Allan,
Rhd. Hodgson,	Hen. Chaytor,
Tho. Pierse,	Wm. Chaytor,
John Wright,	Robeet Hall.
Jos. Morley,	

The Medal was won by Mr. Robert Hall, and the Gorget and Banner, by Mr. Henry Chaytor.

MAY 11, 1759.

The Medal was won by Mr. THOMAS WATSON. The Gorget and Banner by Mr. ROBERT HALL.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1759.

Shooters at this meeting were,

THO. WATSON,	GEO. ALLAN,
ROBT. HALL,	RHD. HODGSON,
HUM. THOMPSON,	WM. AUNGLE.

Memorandum. The Medal not won this day. The Gorget was won by Mr. THOMAS WATSON, and the meeting adjourned to one o'clock the next day.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1759.

Shooters at this meeting were,

THO. WATSON,	RHD. HODGSON,
ROBERT HALL,	HUM. THOMPSON,
GEORGE ALLAN,	W. AUNGLE.

The Medal was won by Mr. ROBERT HALL. The Gorget by Mr. THOMAS WATSON.

MAY 13, 1760.

Shooters this day were,

ROBT. HALL,	THO. KITCHING,
THO. WATSON,	WM. HALL.
RHD. HODGSON,	

The Medal was won by Mr. RICHARD HODGSON. The Gorget and Banner by Mr. THOMAS WATSON.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1760.

The Medal was won by Mr. ROBERT HALL. The Gorget by Mr. THOMAS WATSON.

MAY 14, 1761.

The Medal was won by Mr. THOMAS HALL. The Gorget was not ſhot for.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1761.

The Medal was won by Mr. ROBERT HALL. The Gorget by Mr. RICHARD HODGSON.

AYCLYFFE ARCHERS.

THIS Society met at Aycliffe, in the county of Durham, May the 24th, 1758, to ſhoot for a Silver Cup; but continued a very ſhort time.

TOXOPHILITES.

THIS Society was formed by SIR ASHTON LEVER and Mr. WARING. For ſometime they ſhot with few members; but with unwearied attention they have now increaſed their numbers to one hundred and fifty. They are patroniſed by his Royal Highneſs the PRINCE of WALES, and their Preſident is the DUKE of NORFOLK.

WOODMEN OF ARDEN.

They practice under the patronage of the EARL of AYLESFORD, in Warwickshire.

ROYAL BRITISH BOWMEN,

Patronised by his Royal Highness the PRINCE of WALES. They were encouraged and supported by the late SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNNE, his Lady, and most of the first families in the principality. A company of ladies join this Society, who are most expert in the exercise; as is proved by the excellent shooting of LADY CUNLIFF in particular.

The candidates for this Society are ballotted for.—Six black balls exclude.—The subscription is only one guinea *per annum*. By way of practice, detachments meet weekly; but the grand-field day is once a fortnight, at each member's house in rotation. A collation is served under the Society's tent, a limitation is made as to the number of dishes; and the display of any thing *hot* is punished by a fine of five guineas.

A Gold and Silver Medal, with Druidical embellishments, are shot for each field-day. The gentlemen shoot at ninety, the ladies at only sixty yards distance. The uniform for the men is a green coat, white waistcoat and breeches, deco-

rated with the Prince of Wales's plume buttons; the ladies' dreſs is white muſlin and green ribbons.

ROYAL KENTISH BOWMEN,

Patroniſed alſo by the PRINCE of WALES. They have a moſt ſuperb and elegant lodge, with a delightful ſhooting ground, at Dartford Heath in Kent.

ROBIN HOOD's BOWMEN.

A ſet of Gentlemen who meet near Highgate, and are much increaſed of late years.

LOYAL ARCHERS.

FORMED on the 23d of April, 1789, the day of the general thankſgiving for the reſtoration of the King's health —They meet at Lewiſham, where their lodge and ſhooting ground are pleaſantly ſituated in a retired and rural ſpot.

THE HAINAULT FORESTERS.

THEY meet under the venerable Oak *, in the foreſt of that name in Eſſex. This Society

* The LORD WARDEN's Records mention a Fair being held under this Oak for near two centuries back; and there are perſons yet living (1792) who remember the ſhade of this wonderful tree covering a ſtatute acre of ground. The middle of the ſtem is forty feet in circumference.

conſiſts of ladies, as well as gentlemen, and are compoſed of the firſt families of the neighbourhood.

YORKSHIRE ARCHERS.

THIS Society was firſt formed in the Summer of the year 1789,—of whom it may be truly ſaid, both with regard to their dexterity and reſpectability, that they are inferior to none.

They ſhot their firſt Target, May 3, 1790, at Chapel-Town near Leeds, at which meeting,

CARR IBBETSON, Eſq; . . Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq; . . . . Capt. of numbers.

JUNE 7, 1790,

Being the next monthly target, it was ſhot at Chapel-Town, by appointment of CARR IBBETSON, Eſq; who, winning the Medal of Captain of the target, has, on that account, the appointment of the place where the next monthly meeting ſhall be held.

At this meeting

SAMUEL RODBARD, Eſq; Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq; . . . . Capt. of numbers.

JULY 5, 1790.

This target was ſhot at Chapel-Town.

HENRY DIXON, Eſq; . . . Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq; . . . . . Capt. of numbers.

AUGUST 2, 1790.

This target was ſhot at the Granby, Harrogate.

THOMAS FENTON, Eſq; . Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq; ..... Capt. of numbers.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1790.

This target was ſhot at Chapel-Town.

WILLIAM LEE, Eſq; ... Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq; .... Capt. of numbers.

OCTOBER 4, 1790.

This target was ſhot at Ferrybridge.

THOMAS FENTON, Eſq; . Capt. of the target.
HENRY DIXON, Eſq; ... Capt. of numbers.

MAY 2, 1791.

This target was ſhot at Chapel-Town.

SAMUEL RODBARD, Eſq; Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq; ..... Capt. of numbers.
THOMAS JAQUES, Eſq; .. Lieut. of the target.
SAMUEL RODBARD, Eſq; Lieut. of numbers.

JUNE 6, 1791.

This target was ſhot at Chapel-Town.

THOMAS JAQUES, Eſq; . Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq; ..... Capt. of numbers.
JOHN HANSON, Eſq; .... Lieut. of the target.
THOMAS JAQUES, Eſq; .. Lieut. of numbers.

JULY 4, 1791.

This target was ſhot at Heath, near Wakefield.

THOMAS JAQUES, Eſq; ..	Capt. of the target.
SAMUEL RODBARD, Eſq;	Capt. of numbers.
THOMAS WYBERG, Eſq;	Lieut. of the target.
HENRY DIXON, Eſq; ...	Lieut. of numbers.

AUGUST 1, 1791.

This target was ſhot at the Granby, Harrogate.

THOMAS WYBERG, Eſq;	Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq;	Capt. of numbers.
	Lieut. of the target.
SAMUEL RODBARD, Eſq;	Lieut. of numbers.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1791.

This target was ſhot on Knaveſmire, near York.

THOMAS FENTON, Eſq;	Capt. of the target.
JOHN DIXON, Eſq;	Capt. of numbers.
	Lieut. of the target.
HENRY DIXON, Fſq; ...	Lieut. of numbers.

OCTOBER 3, 1791.

This target was ſhot at Heath, near Wakefield.

JOHN DIXON, Eſq;	Capt. of the target.
HENRY DIXON, Eſq; ...	Capt. of numbers.
	Lieut. of the target.
THOMAS WYBERG, Eſq;	Lieut. of numbers.

Beſides the above monthly meetings, the Yorkſhire Archers had a target at the general meeting

of all the Societies in England, held May 27, 1791, on Blackheath, and were within one arrow of gaining a Medal there ſhot for.

Their ſhooting uniform, is a plain green frock, and velvet cape of the ſame colour, with uniform buttons, white waiſtcoat and breeches, round black hat, uniform button and loop, with a white oſtrich feather, white ſtockings, half boots, or black gaiters.—The dreſs uniform depends on the pleaſure of the Lady Patroneſs.

The targets to be always ſhot at on public days, at the diſtance of one hundred yards.

The four Medals belonging to the Society to be transferable, and to be ſhot for at each of the ſix monthly meetings.—The Gold Medal for the Captain of the Target, to be gained by the moſt centrical ſhot during the day — he large Silver Medal to the Captain of Numbers, for the greateſt number of ſhots in the targets —The Silver Medal for the ſecond beſt ſhot; and the other Silver Medal for the Lieutenant of Numbers, having the ſecond greateſt number of ſhots in the targets.

The ſum of Four Guineas is given by the Society to be ſhot for on each target day, and diſtributed in the following manner; viz. Each arrow, ſhot within the gold or centre circle of the targets,

receive two ſhillings and ſixpence; all arrows in the red or ſecond circle, two ſhillings; thoſe hitting the inner white or third circle, one ſhilling and ſixpence; thoſe in the black or fourth circle, one ſhilling, and thoſe in the outer white or fifth circle, ſixpence.

The Patron of the Society, EARL FITZWILLIAM —The Patroneſs, the COUNTESS of MEXBOROUGH.

The Society conſiſts at preſent of ſeventy-four members, with four honorary ones.

The Ladies preſented the Society laſt ſummer, with very elegant Colours, to be placed on the top of a large Tent belonging the Society, in which a company of eighty may with great convenience dine.

THE MERCIAN BOWMEN,

A very reſpectable Society, who meet on Summer Hill, near Coventry.

THE KENTISH RANGERS.

A Society who meet on Blackheath, and are formed of members who have ſeparated from one of the other Societies.

SOUTHAMPTON ARCHERS,

Now Royal, being patroniſed by his Royal Highneſs the DUKE of GLOUCESTER.

BOWMEN OF CHEVY-CHACE,

Under the immediate patronage of the DUKE of NORTHUMBERLAND.

WOODMEN OF HORNSEY.

SURREY BOWMEN,

Who are alſo become Royal, having his Royal Highneſs the DUKE of CLARENCE as patron. This Society has of late been particularly diſtinguiſhed, and promiſes to vie with any in point of dexterity and ſkill.

THE ARCHERS OF ARCHENFIELD,

Near Hereford, have been much ſpoken of, both for their dexterity and hoſpitality.

THE grand Annual Meeting of the following Societies of Archers, took place on Friday, the 27th of May, 1791, at Blackheath, viz.

HONOURABLE THE ARTILLERY COMPANY, in two diviſions,
SURREY BOWMEN, firſt diviſion,
——————— ſecond diviſion,
HAINAULT FORESTERS,
TOXOPHOLITES, firſt diviſion,
——————— ſecond diviſion,
NORTHUMBERLAND ARCHERS,
SHERWOOD FORESTERS,
KENTISH RANGERS,
KENTISH BOWMEN,
LOYAL ARCHERS,
WOODMEN OF ARDEN,
ROBIN HOOD SOCIETY,
YORKSHIRE ARCHERS,
WOODMEN OF HORNSEY.

They were all dreſſed in green, with half-boots. Numbers of ladies were likewiſe dreſſed in the uniform of the Societies. Thirty-two targets were placed on the ground, and about a dozen of Archers appointed to ſhoot at each.—At twelve o'clock the ſhooting for the prizes commenced, and continued without intermiſſion till three; when they retired to their tents, and partook of ſome refreſhments. After which, the conteſt was re-

newed; and on examining the targets at six o'clock, Mr. Rickards, of the Toxopholite Society, appeared to be entitled to the Gold Medal; and Mr. Rush of the Woodmen of Hornsey, to the Silver Medal. Lord Aylesbury, having shot sixteen different times into the target, he was declared Captain of Numbers. The Archers afterwards returned to town, and dined together at the Thatched-House Tavern.

The Loyal Archers shot once into the Bull's Eye of the Target; the Yorkshire Archers once; the Toxopholite Society twice; the Robin Hood once; and the Woodmen of Hornsey twice.

Two persons were slightly wounded by standing too near the targets.

The tents were fancifully decorated with banners, proudly displaying the devices of the various orders of Archery.

Thus have we seen in the lapse of time, one of the most dangerous and destructive weapons of war laid aside, to make room for a novel invention; and English Archery, once the terror of foreign enemies, now changed into a pleasing, elegant, and healthful amusement. May we not wish for a similar alteration with regard to every

other inſtrument invented for the deſtruction of men; and hope for the arrival of thoſe peaceful days, ſo beautifully deſcribed by the poet——

No more ſhall nation againſt nation riſe,
Nor ardent warriors meet with hateful eyes;
Nor fields with gleaming ſteel be cover'd o'er,
The brazen trumpets kindle rage no more;
But uſeleſs lances into ſcythes ſhall bend,
And the broad falchion in a plowſhare end.

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